FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 JUNE 1985

Libya

Monitored Libyan media have not been observed to mention Libya's closure of the "Libyan Brotherhood Bureau" in Damascus as reported by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon on 3 June. The radio contended the closure follows "differences" over the Palestinian camps war in Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq

Weekend fighting between Iran and Iraq continued with an Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by Baghdad radio stating their forces on 31 May launched a "violent raid" on Tehran as well as two other cities, and also chased an enemy F-4 back into Iran where they shot it down. Dismissing the Iraqi F-4 claim, an Iranian defense spokesman cited by IRNA the same day observed that all Iranian jet fighters returned "safely" to their bases from successful operations in Iraq. In a later Iraqi military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio, Iraq described a 31 May "lightning destructive raid" on Mehrabad airport, which IRNA countered the same day, claiming that Iraqi aircraft failed to infiltrate Tehran airspace. This Iraqi communique also disclosed a "sweeping" offensive east of the Tigris sector where, after a "fierce battle," Iraqi forces siezed and took control of the "islands." A Hanifah forces commander, in a 2 June press statement cited by INA, stated that this Tigris offensive gained control of the "Iranian communications centers deep inside the marshland." The Iranian Joint Staff communique for 31 May carried by IRNA only mentioned southern front battles in the Arvand River and Bayat regions but maintained they "completely destroyed" an Iraqi radar station at Ravanduz and listed attacks on 14 other military-economic installations throughout the day.

On 1 June, when a Panamanian-registered freighter was attacked, Tehran radio citing news agencies maintained it was hit by an "unidentified plane" as it sailed from a Saudi Arabian port; however, Voice of the Masses radio cited Bahraini maritime sources to the effect that "Iranian aircraft" hit the ship. In other 1 June attacks, Tehran radio reported an Iranian military claim that an Iraqi plane was downed in the Piranshah area, but this was denied the next day by an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA. The Iranian War Information Headquarters in an IRNA report also announced that Iran retaliated against Iraq for resuming attacks on civilian areas under the "orders of the United States" by firing a missile on Baghdad which, according to later reports by Tehran radio, caused "great damage" to the Iraqi radio-TV station. The Iraqi Armed Forces communique on 2 June from Baghdad radio acknowledged the Baghdad attack without mentioning any details and noted three more 1 June raids on Tehran and Mehrabad airport, as well as a 2 June attack on Ilam. Iran's military communique for 1 June listed a total of 16 Iraqi towns or military centers attacked during the day.

Iraqi planes made a successful raid on a large maritime target near Khark Island 2 June according to a military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio, who also claimed two more "destructive raids" on Tehran within 4 minutes on the same day. IRNA reported "a number of people" were killed or wounded in the attack. The 2 June Iranian military communique cited by the agency disclosed "heaviest clashes" on the southern front at Majnun Island and Nahr Anbar areas and attacks against 15 military-industrial centers. The agency's 2 June reports also stated Iranian troops shelled a "strategic" bridge in Basra, halting Iraqi supply movements, and recounted Iraqi attacks against five Iranian cities.

PLO Leaders' Statements

Describing the PFLP stand regarding Syria and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, PFLP leader George Habash in an interview broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo on 31 May observed that the Lebanese camp situation indicates a "crisis" in relations with Syria since this tragedy could not occur without a "green light" from Damascus, but denied a rapprochement in any way with 'Arafat who represents the "political butchering of the Palestinian revolution." Reiterating Habash's views on the crisis in Syrian relations over Amal's attacks on Palestinian camps, PFLP spokesman Abu Sharif Bassam in a 1 June *AL-BAYAN* interview, praised Palestinian National Salvation Front (PNSF) relations with Libya as "very good."

A member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) Political Bureau, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, in an interview broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo on 31 May, expressed the hope that Syria will use its influence on the Amal movement to stop the "ongoing massacre," contending that there are "no heavy weapons" in the camps, "particularly in Beirut" and that the camps' popular committees should be responsible for internal security. Rabbuh speculated that claims about "the armed return to the south is only a pretext" for Israel's security plans there. Reconciliation within the PLO can be restored when "all abide by the PLO program," he maintained. Meanwhile, DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah is in Moscow on a short visit to discuss the Lebanese situation, KUNA disclosed.

As for Fatah, Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, in an exclusive statement to WAFA cited by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio, urged all Palestinian factions to "rise above their differences to confront the Damascus regime's conspiracy to liquidate the Palestine question" and achieve national unity based on the PNC's resolutions. Commenting on the theme of Palestinian unity, Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan in a Radio Monte Carlo interview broadcast 31 May welcomed the PFLP and DFLP, adding "the door is always open." He also confirmed that "some of our brothers in the leadership" thanked and encouraged Libyan officials. PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman stated that the PLO

leadership welcomes the Libyan stand, Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio announced.

Lebanon

Although Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, in a 2 June statement cited by Jerusalem radio, announced that only a "few soldiers" will remain after the IDF completes its withdrawal on 6 June, Beirut radio reported on 3 June that an armored Israeli force "entered" several Tyre district villages previously evacuated by the IDF. Other weekend fighting erupted in Tyre when the Amal movement beseiged the Al-Buss camp 2 June, Voice of Lebanon radio observed. In the south, Amal fighters attacked six Lahd positions on 31 May and a seventh on 1 June, while thePopular Liberation Army and Lahd fought at the Kafr Falus-Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir axis 2 June, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, Islamic Popular Resistance forces and Arab Democratic Party members renewed fighting in Tripoli on 3 June, Voice of Lebanon radio stated. Following the Amal movement's 31 May cease-fire for Palestinian camps in Beirut, clashes broke out again 1 June with 3 June fighting continuing at Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila while the Sabra camp fortifications were still being blown up, the radio related. The death toll for the 2 weeks of fighting rose to 502 dead and 2,363 wounded, Beirut radio reported 2 June.

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PDPA Central Committee Politburo Session Held

LD030702 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0529 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, Jun 2 BAKHTAR: A periodical Politburo session of the PDPA CC was held here under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

The session assessed and fully confirmed the results of the visit by Babrak Karmal to the Soviet Union for participating in the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people over fascism. Addressing the audience, Babrak Karmal praised the role played by the people of the Soviet Union and the Red Army for saving the humankind from the clutches of Hitlerite fascism. He also referred to the political outcomes followed the defeat of Hitlerite fascism in bringing about decisive change in the balance of forces at international area in the interest of peace, progress (?and socialism).

Babrak Karmal reiterated the all-sided support of the party and the state of the DRA to the principled and constructive proposals of the Soviet Union aimed at ensuring peace and international security.

The Politburo session made a high assessment of the friendly and official visit of the high-ranking party and state delegation of the DRA headed by Babrak Karmal to Polish People's Republic (PPR) and described it significant towards the development and strengthening of friendly and fraternal relations and all-sided cooperation between the DRA and the PPR.

The Politburo session regarded positive and constructive the results of the talks held between Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council, and Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of Polish United Workers Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Polish Peoples' Republic as well as it confirmed the official talks held between the party and state delegations of the two countries and the joint communique signed between them.

Babrak Karmal expressed his satisfaction about the results gained from the visit of the DRA delegation to Poland.

The Politburo session studied and discussed the intensification of the political work among the tribes and nationalities of Khost District (south of the DRA). The session took concrete decisions regarding the steps to be taken for the promotion of political work as well as raising the standard of living of the people there.

The session also heard the report of the visit made by Mahmud Barlialay, alternate member of Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC to the Syrian Arab Republic in May at the invitation of Ba'th Party. The session gave a high evaluation to the results of this visit and the meetings held between Mahmud Barialay, and general secretary of Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of Syria. [As received]

The session also endorsed the agreement of cooperation, joint communique signed between the two parties.

DRA Rejects Pakistani Air Space Violation Charges

LD021424 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Kabul, 2 Jun, (BAKHTAR) — The Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul was summoned to the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning at 0930 and the following points were made to him by the head of the First Political Department:

The militarist authorities of Pakistan, continuing their groundless accusation against the DRA, have again alleged that Pakistani air space in Landi Kotal, Chitral, and Parachenar was violated on 21, 26, 27, and 28 May this year. They have also alleged that on 24 May Pakistani territory in Landi Kotal was shelled by artillery which caused no damage.

The DRA Government, after full investigation, regards this allegation of the militarist government of pakistan as untrue and resolutely rejects it. The DRA Government points out that the Pakistani authorities should end such fabrications whose sole aim is to aggravate tension on the borders.

Reportage on Cyclone Losses, Aid Activities

Armed Forces Deployed

BK010421 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Excerpts] Several units of the armed forces are being deployed in all the cyclone-affected areas; zonal martial law administrators of Zones C, D, and E are also supervizing relief and rehabilitation there.

Briefing newsmen at the chief martial law administrator's secretariat in Dhaka last night, a spokesman said 2,079 bodies have been recovered from the storm-battered areas and they have either been laid to rest or are awaiting burial. Of these, 52 bodies were found yesterday in 5 small [word indistinct]. According to the latest reports, the number of people missing in Friday night's cyclonic storm has risen to 4,850. The spokesman said 1.2 million people in 25 upzillas [subdistricts] under 6 districts have been affected. Of them, six upzillas, including Sandwip, where Urirchar is situated, were badly affected. Giving an account of the damage due to the national disaster, he said 98,867 houses were fully and 125,826 houses partially damaged. Crops on 135,400 acres of land were damaged and 105,203 cattle have perished.

Cholera Reported

HK020748 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 2 Jun 85

[By Roushan Zaman]

[Text] Dhaka, June 2 (AFP) — Cholera has broken out in cyclone-ravaged southern Bangladesh and at least 20 people have died of diarrhoea, newspaper reports said today.

ITTEFAQ newspaper said cholera had struck on Sandwip Island, about 60 kilometers (36 miles) from the southeastern port city of Chittagong, and on some nearby smaller islands.

Officials in coastal areas dismissed the cholera report, but said three people had died of gastroenteritis following Friday's cyclone and tidal waves, which may have left 10,000 dead in their wake.

"We are keeping a constant vigil on the cyclone areas and taking all possible measures to ward off any possible outbreak of epidemics", a senior official told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Dhaka officials said they did not know of any widespread diarrhoeal diseases, which newspapers said had left 20 dead and threatened vast areas on the coast and off-shore islands stricken by the cyclone.

The newspaper reports said many people were attacked by different intestinal diseases after drinking salt water brought inland by tidal surges.

But the Dhaka officials said adequate water purification tablets as well as drinking water, bleeching powders and medicine had been sent on an emergency basis.

Meanwhile, reports from southern Noakhali District today said that cyclone survivors were in desperate need of airdrops of relief materials including food, medicine, drinking water and tents.

Several thousand survivors on the islands of Char Gangchill, Char Baishakhi, Char Kalmi, Char Dhanershish and Char Lengta in the district had so far received almost nothing, the unofficial reports said.

Desperate survivors on many dislocated [word indistinct] areas gathered patiently waving a red flag to attract the attention of helicopters, but these often dropped no supplies, they said.

Meanwhile, the authorities here stressed that relief operations were being conducted on a war footing, as international aid both in cash and in kind poured in from all over the world.

Soviet Presidium Condolences

BK020701 Dhaka BSS in English 0616 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Dhaka June 2 BSS — The Presidium oif the Supreme Soviet of the USSR had expressed sympathy for the cyclone affected people.

In a message to President Lt General H M Ershad, the Presidium said: "In connection with the natural disaster which overtook your country and people and caused human losses, accept our deep condolences. We express sympathy with the affected people."

India's Gandhi, Sri Lanka's Jayewardene Arrive

BK021307 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, arrived in Dhaka on a brief visit to express their sympathies for the cyclone-affected people of Bangladesh. They were received at the airport by the Bangladesh president, General Ershad. Earlier, before leaving for Dhaka, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and President Jayewardene held extensive discussions in New Delhi covering various aspects of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

Visit Urirchar

BK021620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, accompanied by the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, and the Bangladesh president, General Ershad, today visited the cyclone-devastated small island of Urirchar off the Chittagong coast. Mr Gandhi's visit is to convey India's sympathy to the victims of the disaster. He made inquiries about relief arrangements and distributed saris and eatables like biscuits to some of the waiting women and children who had survived the fury of the cyclone.

The AIR [All India Radio] special correspondent, Manohar Takru, who accompanied the three leaders to Urirchar, says the

area is still under water. The entire island looks like a vast lake. The only thing to be seen over long stretches are the remnants of structures washed away in tidal waves. Our correspondent adds that the only dwelling that is still intact is a forest hut. General Ershad took his two distinguished guests to this dwelling where the Chittagong area commander, Major General Nuruddin, briefed them about the disaster and the measures taken to bring relief to the survivors. Most of the population of this island perished in the cyclone. Giving an account of the casualty, he put the known death toll at about 3,200 in the island. He said a number of the other islands in the Chittagong estuary were badly hit. The number of deaths would total about 10,000.

Diplomatic sources in Dhaka say that Bangladesh feels deeply touched at Mr Rajiv Gandhi's initiative to fly to Dhaka along with the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, to express sympathy with the people of Bangladesh personally. They note that this is a very good augury to the South Asian Regional Cooperation, which is scheduled to hold a summit meeting in Dhaka in December.

Talks With India on Sharing Ganges Water Begin

BK021000 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] A 2-day meeting of the Indo-Bangla Joint Rivers Commission began in Dhaka today. The Indian side is led by the irrigation and power minister, Mr Shankaranand, while the Bangladesh delegation is headed by the water resources minister, Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed. Sharing of the Ganga [Ganges] water and augmentation of the river water during the dry season are being discussed at the meeting.

Mr Shankaranand told newsmen at Dhaka airport yesterday on his arrival that he is hopeful that the meeting will be able to achieve some better results this time.

Delhi Protests Airspace Violation By Pakistan

BK311241 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1233 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] India today lodged a protest with Pakistan against the flagrant violation of its airspace in the northern parts of Jammu and Kashmir by intruding Pakistan Air Force jet aircraft on Wednesday morning [29 May]. Replying to questions by newsmen, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi that the foreign secretary spoke to the Pakistan ambassador on this incident. A written communication was also handed over to the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi.

Jayewardene Arrives for Talks on Ethnic Issue

BK011614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, arrived in New Delhi a short while ago for talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on the ethnic problem in the island. He was received at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan; and other dignitaries. Mr Jayewardene is accompanied by his wife, Mrs Jayewardene; the national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali; and the foreign affairs adviser, Mr Wickremasinghe.

President Jayewardene and Mr Rajiv Gandhi will hold talks tomorrow morning. The visiting dignitary will call on the president, Giani Zail Singh, before the talks. He will also lay wreaths at the samadhis [cremation sites] of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. In the afternoon, Mr Rajiv Gandhi and president Jayewardene will fly together to Dhaka. Later, they will be joined by President Ershad of Bangladesh for an aerial survey of the cyclone and flood-affected areas in that country. The visit of the two leaders to Bangladesh is to express solidarity with the people and the government of that country and is in the best spirit of regional cooperation. They will return to New Delhi late tomorrow evening.

On Monday afternoon, President Jayewardene will leave for Colombo.

Talks Held

BK020912 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, held extensive discussions in New Delhi this morning covering various aspects of the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. The talks lasted for 1 hour and 45 minutes. The two leaders first met for 45 minutes without aides. Later, President Jayewardene was joined by his minister of national security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, and Mr Gandhi by defense minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao. Officials of the two countries met separately for informal discussion.

Mr Gandhi and Mr Jayewardene left for Dhaka this afternoon by a special aircraft to convey their sympathy personally to the Bangladesh president, Lieutenant General Ershad, over the cyclone and flood tragedy in this country. The Indian prime minister and the Sri Lankan president will continue their deliberations in the aircraft on their way to Dhaka. The two leaders are expected to have another round of talks in New Delhi tomorrow morning before Mr Jayewardene leaves for home. In Bangladesh, President Ershad will take Mr Gandhi and Mr Jayewardene personally to flood-affected areas. The two leaders will be returning to New Delhi tonight. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has already announced a relief of 1 crore rupees for flood victims in Bangladesh.

Earlier this morning, Mr Jayewardene called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President's House]. The meeting lasted for about one half hour. The Sri Lankan president also visited the samadhis [cremation sites] of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Indira Gandhi in the capital and laid wreaths.

AFP Report on Talks

HK020906 Hong Kong AFP in English 0901 GMT 2 Jun 85

[By Govindan Unny]

[Excerpts] New Delhi, June 2 (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene today held "extensive discussions" on Sri Lanka's worsening communal strife, a foreign office spokesman said.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency reported that Mr Gandhi was understood to have expressed his concern about the continuing violence in Sri Lanka and the influx of Tamil refugees into India.

The foreign office spokesman did not say if Mr Gandhi proposed any specific Indian proposals for resolving the problem.

Militant members of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million-strong Tamil minority community are waging a violent campaign for a separate Tamil state in the north and east of the island.

The two leaders met for 90 minutes this morning, the spokesman said.

They met privately for 45 minutes before being joined by Sri Lankan National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali and Indian Defence Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

Simultaneously Indian and Sri Lankan officials met for informal consultations.

The current summit is the first major dialogue between the two heads of government since Sri Lanka's ethnic divisions erupted into widespread violence in mid-1983.

India has said that more than 100,000 Tamils have fled to India to escape the Sri Lankan Armed Froces' alleged brutality towards the Tamil community.

Sri Lanka has alleged that India has allowed Tamil separatist guerrillas to set up training camps in southern India.

The Indian press has reported that New Delhi has told Colombo that while India is for a united Sri Lanka, the communal strife could be solved only through negotiations following the withdrawal of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces from the north and east of the island.

Gandhi, Jayewardene Return From Urirchar

BK030348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, returned to New Delhi last night after personally expressing their sympathy to the Bangladesh president in Dhaka.

In a joint message to General Ershad on their departure from Dhaka, Mr Gandhi and Mr Jayewardene reiterated that they stand together for the solidarity of the region.

President Ershad said people of Bangladesh have been deeply touched by the visit of Mr Rajiv Gandhi and Mr Jayewardene in this hour of crisis.

Addressing a news conference in Dhaka, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said India and Bangladesh can look forward for a stronger friendship and closer cooperation in future. He expressed the hope that his visit will improve relations and understanding between the two countries. Mr Gandhi also said that his talks with Mr Jayewardene in New Delhi on the ethnic issue were fruitful. He said the talks are continuing between some of their colleagues in New Delhi.

The two leaders are expected to have another round of talks today before Mr Jayewardene leaves New Delhi for home. Sri Lanka's national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, and the foreign affairs adviser to the president, Mr Wicremasinghe, stayed back in New Delhi and continued their talks on the ethnic issue with the Indian leaders.

Bhandari on Relations With Sri Lanka, Pakistan

BK311614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, today reiterated that India stands for unity and stability in Sri Lanka which, he said, can be ensured through an early settlement of the ethnic problem. He said the problem in that country has resulted in large-scale influx of refugees into India and it is a matter of grave concern. Mr Bhandari was speaking at a group discussion on India and her neighbors organized by the Delhi study group in the capital. On India-Pakistan relations, Mr Bhandari said massive acquisition of sophisticated arms by Pakistan is not in the interest of the subcontinent as a whole. This fact has to be realized: that the policy of hostility and confrontation can in no way be beneficial to any one.

Meeting With Bangladesh on Border Problems

BK310917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] A (?3-day) high level meeting between the Border Security Force [BSF] and the Bangladesh Rifles [BDR] began in Agartala today to discuss border crimes, extremist activities and other problems. The delegates of the two sides are expected to visit some of the border areas. The 5-member Bangla delegation is led by the deputy director of Bangladesh Rifles, General Mohamaad (Aminuddin), and the BSF side is headed by Inspector General R.RP. Sharma.

Engineers Arrested by Pakistani Army Released

BK021258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] The three engineers of the Jammu and Kashmir power development department who were arrested by Pakistan Army on Friday last [31 May] near the line of actual controlling post were today released. Giving this information in Jammu today, a government spokesman said that the three engineers were released at 1630 [1100 GMT] following a number of flag meetings yesterday and today. He said they were picked up on Friday last while inspecting a power canal near (Tigwar) on old Punch-(Puri) road.

Authorities Take Precautions Against Sikhs

HK310807 Hong Kong AFP in English 0710 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 31 (AFP) — Armed guards have taken over the top floors of a multi-storey five-star hotel overlooking Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's residence as a part of a nationwide security clampdown, security officials said today.

The Army has been put on standby in the capital and the northern state of Punjab, India's borders have been sealed and cars and mail are being checked for bombs.

The precautions have been taken as Sikh militants plan to observe a "genocide week" between June 1 and 7, to mark the first anniversary of an Indian Army assault on the Golden Temple at Amritsar in Punjab.

Some 650 persons died in the assault on the Sikh religion's holiest shrine.

Sikh militants have been waging a violent campaign for greater political autonomy for their homeland in Punjab.

The authorities said that an atmosphere of uncertainty and tension had already gripped northern India as a result of the forthcoming "genocide week."

The premier's new residence on Race Course road here has been converted into a virtual fortress.

Security officials revealed that the neighbouring hotel was heavily guarded round the clock, as a sniper on a high floor could

easily assassinate Mr Gandhi or members of his family while they walked in the lush gardens of his residence.

The officials added that the premier's motorcade would avoid the hotel.

Last week, on Mr Gandhi's return from a trip to the Soviet Union, his motorcade was re-routed because two tall hotels overlooked the original route, the officials revealed.

Mr Gandhi moved into his new house last month, following a decision to convert former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's home into a national memorial, the authorities said.

Mrs Gandhi was assassinated in her residence on October 31.

In the past two days borders with neighbouring countries have been completely sealed.

Central Bureau of Investigation [CBI] sources said vehicles at inter-state borders were being searched and every individual screened, following a secret alert that Sikh separatists might booby-trap VIP's cars with bombs that go off when the ignition key is turned.

Sources close to the top CBI echelon said that a car-bomb blueprint had already been seized from Sikh "terrorists" in Punjab.

The seizure has led to speculation that Sikh militants would resort to car bombs in Punjab and New Delhi during "genocide week."

The officials said post offices around the country were checking mail with explosives sensors and metal detectors, following a recent threat that letter bombs might be posted from at least three "sensitive spots" in Punjab to persons considered to hold anti-Sikh attitudes.

To forestall any Hindu backlash against the Sikh community, authorities have posted armed guards at Sikh temples.

The guards are to remain until the end of the first week of June, the authorities said.

Sources said that the precaution was taken in the light of recent communal violence between Hindus and the Sikhs in Lucknow, the capital of the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, following a wave of bomb blasts in northern India on May 10 and 11 in which 84 were killed and 150 injured.

The sources said the Army had been kept on standby in Punjab and Delhi and would be rushed in at the first sign of trouble.

However, police in the capital said that in the event of an outbreak of violence or acts of terrorism the local law-and-order machinery would tackle the situation here, and only in the case of a communal flare-up would the Army be called in to give support.

The authorities are also keeping a fleet of armed helicopters on standby to monitor the effects of any major flare-up of violence in New Delhi.

In Punjab and other states the border security force as well as other federal agencies have been deployed to avert violence in the coming week, the authorities added.

'Extremists' Arrested in Delhi, Amritsar

BK311603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Delhi Police today arrested seven more extremists in connection with bomb explosions in the capital. A police spokesman said with this the total number of arrest has gone up to 34.

In Amritsar, two extremists were arrested after a brief exchange of fire near the village (Chalk Allah Bux). Police recovered two revolvers. Another extremist was arrested last night near the (Guntala) village. Police recovered one stengun with some live cartridges from him.

Security Measures 'Tightened'

BK010303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] State governments and union territories have tightened security measures for a week from today to combat any possible attempt by terrorists to disrupt peace. This follows an advice by the center to this effect. According to official sources the steps are being taken as a precautionary measure.

The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has said that the state government has made all arrangements to meet any eventuality during the week. Talking to newsmen in Ludhiana yesterday, he said the government will not allow law and order to be disrupted in the state at any cost. He appealed to the press to play a positive role in view of the prevailing situation.

A police spokesman said in Lucknow that a round-the-clock police control room has been opened to keep a close watch on the situation. It will be manned by senior officers. In Madhya Pradesh, round-the-clock vigil and police patrolling started yesterday at strategic points. Bihar was also put under a state of (?general) alert and all vital installations are being kept under strict security surveillance. An official spokesman said in Patna that round-the-clock patrolling by paramilitary forces has been introduced in sensitive pockets. The Calcutta city police commissioner told newsmen that security arrangements in all the vital installations in West Bengal have been tightened. In Delhi, elaborate security arrangements have been made and a strict vigil is being kept on all vital installations. Markets, cinema halls, airports and interstate highways are being closely watched.

Police Raid North Delhi

BK011631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Delhi police today raided a premises in north Delhi and recovered 52 iron shells which were for use in transistor bombs. Other implements and mouldings used for manufacturing the iron shells were also seized by the police. According to the police, most of the iron shells used in transistor bombs that exploded in Delhi and other places last month were manufactured at this factory. At another place, also in north Delhi, police traced the premises where screw threads for the caps of the iron shells were made on a lathe machine. Three more persons in connection with the bomb blast have been arrested. With this, the number of persons arrested in Delhi in this connection has gone up to 37.

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Mr M.M.K. Wali today said police and other security forces have been geared up to meet any eventuality. Addressing newsmen, he said security forces have been deployed at strategic points and vital installations to thwart any attempt by extremists to create tension in the capital. He appealed to the people for cooperation and urged them not to give credence to rumormongering.

Punjab, Haryana Halt Bus Service for Security

BK311613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Haryana government has suspended night bus service of the state roadways in the neighboring areas of Punjab with immediate effect. The service will remain suspended after 2000 [1430 GMT] for 4 days. An official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent that this has been done as a precautionary measure. A state roadways bus was stopped at pistol point by some miscreants near Ambala last night. The driver, conductor, and all the passengers of the bus had escaped unhurt. The police later recovered a crude bomb from the bus.

The Punjab government has also decided to suspend its night service in the neighboring areas of Haryana during the period. The Chandgarh administration has also extended the ban on pillion riding till 15 June as a precautionary measure.

Situation in Punjab Reported To Be 'Normal'

BK011629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] The situation in Punjab is normal. Till late in the evening, no report of any incident has been received. The center is constantly reviewing the situation and all steps are being taken to ensure nothing untoward happens. Several thousand Sikh took a vow to fight terrorism and separatism in any form at an All India Panthik [Sikh religious] convention sponsored by the Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee. The convention in a resolution has condemned terrorism and separatism and resolved to work for the unity and integrity of the country. The resolution adopted at the convention in Delhi today says that some foreign agents and enemies of the Khalsa Panth [Sikh religion] are behind the recent antinational acts. It appealed to the Akalis and other Sikh leaders to help solve the Punjab problem by responding to the call given by the prime minister. It appreciated the steps already taken by the center for the development of Punjab. The convention was addressed by the union agriculture minister, Mr Buta Singh; the president of the Akali Dal, Tara Singh Group, Mr Rachhpal Singh; and several other leaders from different states. The head priest of the Takht Patna Saheb, Jathedar Man Singh, also attended the convention. The speakers said that the Sikhs do not support separatism. They appealed to the government to ensure that innocent people are not harassed for the acts of terrorism committed by few miscreants. They assured the government that the Sikhs will not lag behind to uphold the unity and integrity of the country.

In Amritsar, Akhand Path [nonstop recitation of Sikh holy book] sponsored by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee and the Akali Dal led by Mr Harchand Singh Longowal, began at Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] today, while the Akali group led by Mr Joginder Singh arranged another nonstop recitation of Granth Saheb [Sikh holy book] at Dewan Hall of Majhi Saheb in the Golden Temple.

Governor's Advisers in Charge of Security

BK020349 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] In Punjab, the four advisers to the governor have been placed in charge of three districts each for the purposes of maintenance of law and order. The state governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has directed senior police and civil officials in the district to give top priority to the maintenance of law and order. Mr Arjun Singh has also instructed police officers of the Inspector General's rank to carry out surprise visits to all the districts to inspect and review the arrangements. The governor, accompanied by his security adviser, Lieutenant General K. Gowri Shankar, yesterday visited border areas of the Khem Karan sector of Amritsar District.

2 Inspectors General Named

BK020948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] The Punjab government today appointed two regional inspectors general of police [IGP] to improve the functioning of the police force. The IGP, Punjab Armed Police, Mr K. P. S. Gill, will look after Jullundur range, while the IGP, headquarters, Mr D. S. Mangat, will be in charge of Patiala and Ferozepur ranges.

Governor Asks Akali Help

BK021624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has sought cooperation and the participation of Mr Prakash Singh Badal and other Akali leaders in the deliberations of the state-level communal harmony committee. In a communication in reply to a letter of Mr Badal, the governor appreciated the commitments for pro-

moting communal harmony and normalcy in the state as expressed by Mr Badal in his letter. Mr Arjun Singh said the crucial need of the hour is to maintain and strengthen communal harmony and to exercise utmost restraint in our speeches and actions.

The Akali Dal president, Mr Harchand Singh Longowal, has said that his party is trying to create a congenial atmosphere in Punjab. He said in Chandigarh that he and other party leaders are holding conferences and public meetings throughout the state to defuse the tension.

Meanwhile, four miscreants were arrested by Ludhiana police yesterday. Some arms and ammunition were recovered from them.

Gujarat Chief Minister Appeals for Agitation End

BK020427 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki, has again appealed to the leaders of the antireservation agitation to withdraw the agitation and create an atmosphere for holding school and college examinations. In a broadcast over All India Radio Ahmedabad last night, the chief minister has said the uncertainty about the examinations has affected more than 5 lakh students in Gujarat. Mr Solanki said the state government has decided not to implement the additional reservation of 18 percent for backward classes until a national consensus is evolved. Therefore, there is no justification for continuing the agitation, he said.

Barring a few incidents, peace prevailed in Gujarat last night. The government has decided to postpone the reopening of schools and colleges for an indefinite period in view of the disturbed situation in Ahmedabad.

Curfew Imposed in Idar Town After Stabbing

BK030422 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 June 85

[Text] In Gujarat, one person was killed in a stabbing incident and a shop was set on fire at Idar town in Sabarkantha district last night. Following this, a 13-hour curfew was imposed in the town from 2100 last night. The collector of Sabarkantha told our Ahmedabad correspondent this morning that the situation in the town is now under control.

PRC's Zhao Ziyang, Junejo Exchange Messages

BK030614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 June 85

[Text] The prime ministers of the PRC and Pakistan have said that the friendship and cooperation between the two countries are for the mutual benefit of the peoples of both countries and strengthen peace and stability in the region. In a message while overflying Pakistani territory on his way to Europe, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang said that the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries will be further strengthened. He expressed his goodwill to Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and through him to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and to the government and people of Pakistan.

In his reply, the prime minister said that the solidarity and cooperation between the PRC and Pakistan are for the mutual benefit of the two countries and thanks to this, peace and stability in Asia also get strengthened. He said that the president is happy for the message of the Chinese premier and he has also reciprocated his hearty feelings.

Punjab Assembly Recommends Lifting Martial Law

BK010827 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] The Punjab assembly unanimously adopted a resolution in Lahore this morning recommending the federal government, National Assembly and the prime minister to lift martial law as soon as possible. The resolution was introduced by the provincial law minister, Chadhury Abdul Gafoor, and the members gave their approval in the house.

Reportage on Afghan Air Attack 31 May

BBC Reports 7 Dead

BK010359 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 1 Jun 85

[From 'Radio Newsreel' program]

[Text] United Nations special envoy on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, has announced that talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan are to resume in Geneva later this month. But the announcement made in Islamabad came at a bad time as government officials there were reporting that a Pakistan border village had suffered a bombing raid by Afghanistan in which at least seven people have been killed. The report of the attack comes during a new Soviet advance against Afghan guerrillas, as Alex Brodie reports from Islamabad:

[Bebin Brodie recording] Pakistani official sources say that about 0500 on Friday morning [0000 GMT 31 May] aircraft bombed a village inside Pakistan for about half an hour and that first reports from the area said that about seven people have been killed and the village badly damaged. Other unofficial reports say 10 died when several planes attacked the village. It is near Arandu, the Pakistani border town opposite Barikowt, which is a garrison encircled by guerrillas for nearly a year and which a large force of Soviet troops is at present trying to relieve. Some 10,000 Soviet troops backed by planes and helicopters are advancing up the Konar valley parallel with and close to the Pakistani border. Western diplomats believe that if they manage to fight their way through to Barikowt, the Russians may set up a more heavily manned and better fortified base. It would be virtually on the border. The operation — the biggest since the Panjsher Valley of April 1984 — is also intended to close down guerrilla infiltration routes into Afghanistan from Pakistan. Reports from guerrilla sources say guerrillas have been pinned down and control of at least mountain passes won from them. The war in this area regularly spills over the border into Pakistan. Barikowt is less than a mile inside Afghanistan. But this is the highest number of reported casualties here. [end recording]

Chitral Bombing Kills 11

BK011025 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Two Afghan MIG-19 aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace four times between 0515 [0015 GMT] and 0600 yesterday in the (Druch) areas, penetrating 14 miles in (Druch) areas of Chitral. They dropped 13 bombs on (Sadur) village, 5 miles southwest of (Druch). As a result, 11 persons were killed and 22 others wounded.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the foreign office this morning and strong protest lodged with him. He was asked to inform his authorities that if such attacks did not cease, the entire responsibility for the serious consequences would rest on them.

Afghan Planes Intrude Near Quetta, Protest Lodged

BK021023 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Four Afghan jet aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace, penetrating by 16 km in Pakistan's territory in Badin area, northeast of Quetta, on Wednesday last. In the process, they fired rockets at Afghan refugee camps located at Badin and dropped two bombs at Qamruddin Karez, east of Badin. No loss of life or damage to property has been reported so far.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the foreign office this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attack.

55 Sentenced in Connection With Karachi Violence

BK010317 Karachi Domestic Service in English 0200 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] In Karachi, 55 out of 76 persons arrested from Banaras Chowk — a section of Orangi town — on charges of stone throwing, damaging public property and spreading despair, fear and alarm on the 27th of last month were sentenced after found guilty. Another person arrested from the same area on the 28th of last month for possessing unlicensed revolver and cartridges was also found guilty and sentenced.

100 Killed as Soviets Bomb Afghan Positions
BK011731 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] A report from Afghanistan says more than 100 Soviet-Karmal soldiers died on Wednesday [29 May — fbis] as Soviet aircraft bombed their own postions in (?Konar) Valley. The report says the planes also dropped booby traps. At least 40 helicopter gunships were used in the past 3 days to drop troops in the mountains where military convoys failed to gain access.

Karachi Reports Soviets Drop Napalm in Afghanistan
BK020646 Karachi Overaseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, Soviet-Karmal aircraft dropped napalm bombs in Konarha Valley, burning houses and wheat crops. These bombs were dropped in an operation against [word indistinct] Afghan mujahidin of Asmar township at the end of the valley. According to news agency reports, about 10,000 Soviet-Karmal forces, backed by effective air defenses and 600 armored vehicles, took part in this offensive, the objective of which is to liberate Afghan [word indistinct] in Barikowt, which was besieged by mujahidin for about a year.

Karachi Reports Mujahidin Attacks on USSR Forces
BK030633 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say that recently Afghn mujahidin have frequently attacked Soviet-Karmal soldiers going from Jalalabad to (Afsalabad), the headquarters of Konarha Province, and caused heavy damage. The Soviet convoy was provided with Soviet gunship helicopters, tanks, and armored vehicles. Mujahidin made rocket attacks on a military post near Lashkar Gah.

Another report says mujahidin halted the advancement of Soviet-Karmal forces in the (?Narey) area toward the protected cantonment in Barikowt.

BHUTAN

Foreign Minister Comments on Regional Group

BK311616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Bhutan will be taking follow up steps on some issues discussed recently at the South Asian Regional Cooperation meeting at Thimpu. This was stated by the Bhutanese foreign minister, Mr Dawa Tsering, in New Delhi today. He is on a 3-day private visit to the Capital. Mr Tsering told our correspondent that the Thimpu conference had made good groundwork for the forthcoming summit of the seven regional countries to be held at Dhaka.

SRI LANKA

North Reportedly Paralyzed Due To Fuel Shortage

HK311544 Hong Kong AFP in English 1518 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 31 (AFP) — Sri Lanka's violence-torn northern province was paralysed today as all public transport came to a standstill because of lack of fuel, and a last ditch attempt to get diesel fuel to the area was sabotaged by a gang of armed men, sources said.

A spokesman for the northern region transport board, K. Thanabalasingham, said effective tomorrow and until further notice all government transport vehicles would be taken off the road in northern province.

Sources in the board said it had made a last attempt to relieve the fuel shortage with a road tanker carrying 750 liters of diesel from Anuradhapura in north-central province to the north today.

The sources said the attempt failed when a gang of nine armed men stopped the truck in the district of Mankulam and emptied the contents of the tank. Reports from the province said private transport companies who get their own supplies of fuel from the south of the country had immediately tripled their prices.

Reliable sources said the stoppage would severely affect food circulation in the province, where railway lines have already been seriously disrupted by Tamil separatist and the fishing industry crippled by naval patrols trying to stop militants crossing to and from the southern coast of India. The sources said most residents used public buses to take food to market places throughout the province.

Reportage on Tamil Raid in Trincomalee Area

Tamil Militants Kill 5

BK011408 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, Tamil militants raided two Sinhalese villages in Eastern Province yesterday killing five persons and injuring several others. An official spokesman said that the militants stormed Mahadapura and (?Dehiwela) villages, about 30 km from Trincomalee, and set fire to more than (?50) houses. At least 500 people have fled from the villages and sought refuge in temples and schools.

Further Report on Attack

HK020638 Hong Kong AFP in English 0634 GMT 2 Jun 85

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] Colombo, June 2 (AFP) — Tamil separatists attacked a police station in Eastern Province last night after three days of communal strife which killed at least 12 people and left more than 1,000 homeless, local residents said today.

Two military officers were believed to have died in the raid on Kuchaveli police station in the Trincomalee area, said the residents, who asked not to be named. But they said there were still only sketchy details of the incident.

They said in telephone interviews that by mid-morning today they had neither seen nor heard any evidence of reports reaching Colombo of a terrorist raid in the area in which 50 people, all of them Sinhalese were said to have died.

The attacks follow three days of communal violence that has left at least 12 people dead and more than 1,000 homeless, Trincomalee residents said.

Refugees were pouring into makeshift refugee camps in the city from the villages of Poonaga, Meinkamen and Thankaveli.

More refugees were moving into the city from Pankalam, where a family of six were murdered in their home by unidentified persons four days ago, they said.

In Colombo, a spokesman for the West German embassy told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE the mission had received reports of an attack near the Bonn-aided Deutsche Welle radio station in the Trincomalee District last night.

However the spokesman said no German personnel had been endangered, and initial reports from the area indicated that the motive of the attack may have been robbery.

Trincomalee residents said the communal violence involving Moslem, Sinhala and Tamil villagers appeared to have been sparked by a water rights dispute.

They said that three days ago seven Tamils were hauled off a bus and slaughtered. A survivor escaped and five Sinhalese in the Thopur area of Trincomalee were killed in reprisal raids.

By yesterday government troops had been rushed to the area, where more than 100 houses were burned, they added.

Residents were checking reports which said that 20 Tamil civilians were missing from the villages of Poonaga, Meinakamam and Thankaveli.

News of the police station attack came even as President Junius Jayewardene was holding talks in New Delhi with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Ghandi in an attempt to find a political solution to separatist violence.

Hard-liners among Sri Lanka's 2.5 million-strong Tamil minority demand a separate Tamil state in the north and east.

Since a fresh flare-up in mid-November last year, more than 800 people have died in communal violence in Sri Lanka.

Troops, Gunboats Rushed to Areas

HK020936 Hong Kong AFP in English 0926 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Excerpt] Colombo, June 2 (AFP) — Troops and gunboats rushed to eastern Sri Lanka today as the death toll in three-day communal slaughter between Tamils and Sinhalas reached at least 60, a government minister said.

Tamil villagers fearing reprisal for the killing of some 50 Sinhalese had apparently heavily damaged a major bridge near Trincomalee, he said.

Only one lane of the sabotaged bridge linking the towns of Kuchaveli and Nilaveli north of Trincomalee remained open to traffic, the minsiter said.

He confirmed reports given to AFP by local residents that the communal violence apparently started with the killing of six Tamils by Sinhalese on Thursday.

He said Tamil villagers Friday launched reprisal attacks on the Sinhala towns of Mahindapura, Neelapola, Dehiwatte, and Seruwila.

Gunboats and troops reinforcements were being rushed by sea and road to the affected areas.

Suspected Tamil separatists also set fire to a police station yesterday, the minister, who did not want to be named, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by telephone from the Trincomalee area. Residents said two military officers may have died.

An appeal has been made by government Parliamentarian H. Leelaratne to evacuate scores of pilgrims from Seruwila.

The pilgrims were among thousands who gathered at Buddhist shrines throughout the country today to pray for an end to violence that has wracked the country, since militants stepped up demands for a separate state for Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority.

Residents said more than 1,000 people had been left homeless and that refugees were streaming into Trincomalee.

The number of Sinhala villagers slaughtered was unclear but believed to be at least 50, while the total death toll in the last three days was at least 60, the minister said.

Official Sources Dispute Figures

BK021335 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Official sources denied reports from foreign news agencies based in Colombo that 50 civilians were killed when terrorists attacked 2 villages in the Trincomalee District on Friday. The district minster for Trincomalee, H.G.P. Nelson, also emphatically denied the story. Five villagers were killed and three severely wounded when the terrorists attacked villages in the Trincomalee District. Fifty (? dwellings) were destroyed in the attack.

At Kuchaveli last night, terrorists attacked a police station, killing one navy officer and injuring eight others. Six terrorists were killed. Two motor vehicles belonging to the West German radio Deutsche Welle (? relay) station had also been taken by the terrorists.

Free Voice of Iran Reports U.S. Hostage 'Killed'

GF011636 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Excerpt] According to our news sources, Peter Kilburn, an American kidnapped in Beirut, has been killed. Following the announcement of the death of William Buckley in Tehran, the proof of which was discovered by British intelligence sources, U.S. intelligence sources have expressed certainty that kidnapped American Peter Kilburn, who was taken by the terrorist Islamic Jihad organization, has been killed. He was an employee of Beirut's American University and was suffering from a heart disease which makes his death almost certain. [sentence as heard]

Tehran Warns Against U.S. Threats Against Ports

LD012144 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Last week, America announced (?impossibly) and through some unofficial sources that it would launch attacks against some of the Iranian ports in retaliation for the hostage taking of American nationals in Lebanon.

Our political commentator has analyzed the recent statements of the American officials and [word indistinct]. Such statements, which were not denied by the official American sources, are another indication of the true character of American imperialists. The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a strong-worded response denied the accusation of Iran's involvement in abducting Americans in Lebanon and transferring them to Iran and pointed out that any measure against the Islamic Republic of Iran will be responded severely.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed that the problems of America in Lebanon and the issue of abduction of some nationals of that country in Beirut are at the root of the aggressive and obstructive policies of America in various regimes of the world. Recently, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, and the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, in his pre-agenda speech announced: In case of American aggression against the ports of our country there will not remain any port for ships to anchor in the Persian Gulf.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, while calling the recent American threats as blackmail, said: If America has gotten any results from its former threats it will get this time too. The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly of Iran, by referring to the crisis which will arrive in case of (?effecting) America's threats in the region, said: If such an event takes place, America will be liable for any crisis due to this (?venture).

At any rate, Mr Musavi, prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, too, told reporters: There is much possibility that the renewed attack of Iraq against the Iranian cities were launched through American instigations. But America cannot do a damn thing; neither by such instigations nor by other measures.

Two weeks ago, an American team, including David Neweton, America's ambassador in Baghdad, [word indistinct] into negotiations with the leaders of the Iraqi Ba'thist Party and a few days later the [word indistinct] was initiated again.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Gives Friday Prayer Sermon

LD311302 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] This week's Friday prayers were held throughout the country with the participation of millions of Muslim people in most of the country's cities and regions. According to reports by Central News Unit reporters from various places, during today's Friday prayer ceremonies, the worshippers, in their crushing slogans, condemned the Iraqi Zionist regime's latest onslaughts, aimed at driving the people out of the arena and dragging the Islamic Republic of Iran into compromise, and once again declared their readiness to defend the Islamic homeland with their lives and to continue the war until the final victory of the Islamic Forces. [Chants, slogans]

According to a report by our correspondents, Tehran's worshippers, who attended the Friday prayer ceremonies this week in vast numbers, observed the Friday prayers rites under the Imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The Imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council, in his Friday prayer sermons today, while expounding the problems related to the imposed war and the situation with which we are currently faced, referred to the Iraqi Zionist regime's despondency and helplessness from the military and economic standpoint, the regime's permanent terror of operations by Islam's combatants on the fronts, and counterrevolution's and imperialism's false news reports on increasing antiwar tendencies among the Iranian people, as possible motives for the Iraqi regime to resume attacks on populated centers of Iranian cities. He said that as always, it will be Iraq which will once again suffer a great deal more than others as a result of its actions. The Imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council then expounded the unpalatable outcome of accepting a cease-fire for the Islamic Republic of Iran and the region. He said that while the Ba'th party and Saddam remain in power there is no other way left to the Islamic Republic of Iran but to bring so much pressure to bear on the Iraqi Zionist regime that the Ba'thist system in Iraq is destroyed and, through bringing to power a people's system in that country, the path of friendship between the two nations of Iran and Iraq can be opened.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, emphasizing the fact that a vast presence by the strata of the Muslim people on the arenas for the defence of the Islamic Revolution, particularly their support for the fronts, guarantees the successful movement of the Islamic revolution, then suggested that International Jerusalem Day, or Qod's day, on 5 June, should also be declared as the Day for Supporting the War, so that all those who agree with continuing the war until the liquidation of the sedition and obtaining final victory, by their slogans and placards, might demonstrate their will to continue the war, so that the world might know who are the supporters of the revolution and those who are determined to continue the war until final victory.

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly referred to the clashes between the Muslim groups in southern Lebanon as a joint plot by the United States and Israel to deal a blow at the momentous Shi'ite struggles in Lebanon. He said that these moves are irreparable for the Islamic world and Lebanon.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani added that the move made by Grand Ayatollah Montazeri to end these clashes is extremely appropriate and enjoys the support of all. We hope that by dispatching the delegation chosen by him these clashes will come to an end.

Friday Arabic Sermon

GF311536 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 May 85

[Friday Arabic sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and Tehran ad interim Friday imam, at Tehran University on 31 May — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings to all Muslims of the world. Following the victory of Muslims in Iran, we have witnessed Muslim uprisings in all parts of the world. There is more hope for the possibility of establishing an Islamic rule in southern Lebanon which has been controlled by [word indistinct]. We hope that the Muslims' faith, God-fearing, and hope will strengthen during the holy month of Ramadan.

The enemies of Islam, including the hegemonic Eastern and Western powers, are (?balking) at this new Islamic tide and have allocated all their capabilities toward destroying the source of this shining light. Do they think they can achieve their filthy goals through putting pressure on Islamic Iran, the base of the Islamic tide, and the Lebanese Muslim people? The United States has (?violated) international conventions by threatening the Islamic Republic of Iran with retaliation for (?adventures) carried out by Islamic Jihad in Lebanon.

The United States has charged the Iraqi Ba'thists with the responsibility of implementing its threats against Iran. On behalf of the United States and under the sly pretext of defending the shaykhs of the southern Persian Gulf, the Iraqi Ba'thists have been attacking Iranian civilians during the sacred month of Ramadan. Beside the Ba'thists, there are other elements who have been misled into causing disturbances between Palestinians and the Lebanese or between the Shi'ites and the Sunnis. (?They have) threatened Islamic and national unity in Lebanon by killing the oppressed exiled Palestinian people and Lebanese Muslims. In this way, they will open the way for Israel and the Phalangists to commit aggression against Lebanon and the rights of Muslims in this country.

However, the enemies of Islam do not realize that Islam does not disintegrate through such pressures and threats. On the contrary, these problems fortify the principles and experiences of Muslims. Islamic history shows that Muslims everywhere have risen with Jihad whenever faced with problems, which have strengthened their power and rendered them more solid. As God says: If you make God your champion, he will make you victorious and establish you firmly. In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. "O unbelievers, I worship not what you worship and you are not worshipping what I worship, nor am I worshipping what you have worshipped, neither are you worshipping what I worship. To you your religion, and to me my religion!" [Koranic verse] Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

No 'Compromise' With Iraq

LD311527 Tehran IRNA in English 1455 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 31, IRNA — Majlis speaker and temporary leader of the Friday mass prayers of Tehran Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here today that any kind of compromise with the ruling regime in Baghdad would jeopardize Iran's security in the future and that a cease-fire of whatever nature would only serve Baghdad with an opportunity to build up its armaments for a new invasion of the Islamic Republic.

The hojjat ol-eslam said in his address to a multitudinous group of worshippers at Friday congregational prayers at the compounds of Tehran University that any kind of peace agreement falling short of materializing Iran's terms for an end to the conflict is, insofar as pertains to Iran, absolutely beside the point.

He said the Islamic Government cannot but maintain pressure upon the rule of the Ba'thists in Baghdad so that either the ruling Ba'th clique or Saddam Husayn succumb to pressure from Iran. The United Nations and the U.N. Security Council had recently condemned Saddam Husayn, as did too the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Alexander Hay for his violation of international conventions with respect to war.

The following are excerpts from his sermon to the group of worshippers at Tehran University today.

On the situation in Lebanon: "Last week we witnessed one of the worst scenes ever in Lebanon...the encounters between the Palestinians and some Shi'ite Muslims in Lebanon are managed by the colonialistic world powers with the object of obliterating Shi'ism as well as Islam in Lebanon. This conspiracy is being hatched in Lebanon in the wake of the aborted plot for pitting the Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims against each other in that country. I see the United States and Israel behind the conspiracy. By commiting such a crime in Lebanon they have harmed the Islamic movement. For one thing as a result of this plot a group of homeless Palestinians were killed while a number of Muslims from the other side, too, were killed. Secondly they have thereby pitted the enemies of Muslims and Shi'ites on a verbal lashing of Shi'ism in a dastardly manner. So in order to put an end to resistance in southern Lebanon they have launched out a propaganda campaign against Shi'ism which plot fulfills the goals of the United States and Israel. Such damages are irreparable to Lebanon, to the Islamic movement and to the Muslim world."

On the Iraq-Iran war: "Iraq is far too incapable of placing itself in a better position by shelling and bombarding our cities. But the ruling clique in Iraq sees no alternative for itself but this same strategy. Today some four or five years since the outbreak of the war Baghdad is continuously haunted by the idea of a surprise

last offensive by the Islamic Republic. This obsession tortures them like a nightmare. Therefore every now and then the Iraqis raise a hue and cry over imaginary victories with the idea of gaining some prestige at the global level and kill time for their own recuperation. On the other hand Iraq's dependence on the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Turkey and the Persian Gulf sheikhdoms and Jordan has placed it in a helpless situation.

"It is not coincidental that Saddam should have attacked us in the wake of a conspiracy hatched in Lebanon which also involved the issue of a group of Americans taken hostage in Lebanon. The incidents prove that they were managed by the United States."

On the attempt last week against the life of the amir of Kuwait and Baghdad's accusations against the Islamic Government:

"Some of the enemies of the Islamic Republic launched out a series of mischievous acts as soon as they noticed that we were establishing some good relations with the Persian Gulf sheikhdoms. As yet we do not know about what happened in Kuwait. But the incident is so significant for Saddam as to have exploited it as a ground for Iraq's new operations. But it is also equally possible that what the internal counterrevolution and the foreign news agencies did in Iran should have served to beguile Saddam."

On the people's presence:

"We cannot but go ahead with the arms we have taken up so that we will liberate the people of Iraq naturally without having any designs whatsoever on the Iraqi territory. The principal way of fighting this new conspiracy against us lies in your (the people's) continued presence in the arena of struggle..."

Majlis Speaker Comments on Releasing More POW's

LD311405 Tehran IRNA in English 1350 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 31 IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Thursday night that the Islamic Republic would show more flexibility in releasing Iraqi POW's if the Iraqi regime too freed more Iranian POW's. He said also that since Iran held more Iraqi prisoners of war "we might reach a stage later so that this exchange would take place not (necessarily) on an equal basis."

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani who was speaking after a meeting of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), said Iran's policy was to release more Iraqi POW's unilaterally or on an exchange basis. He expressed pessimism however that the Iraqi regime would accept this offer.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani who is the SDC spokesman and the imam's representative at the council, further said that the Islamic Republic gave priority to those POW's who were in difficult conditions such as the aged, disabled and sick ones. He also said there might be others who would prefer to stay in Iran and not to go to Iraq, who had their own right and "we consider more priority to them."

On the whole, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, Iran would like to release more Iraqi POW's in return for more Iranian prisoners of war. Definitely, he said, Iraq would cause obstructions in this way but we will pressure the Baghdad government through the international organisations.

The Thursday night's meeting of the Supreme Defence Council was chaired by President Khamene'i, Information Minister Reyshahri as well as top ranking military commanders including the imam's representative at the SDC, Gen. Zahirnejad, Acting Defence Minister Col. Rahimi, Joint Staff Chief Col. Sohrabi, Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Commander Rezaie, and his deputy Shamkhani.

The SDC spokesman said to reporters after the meeting that Iran's defence industries had developed a new innovation to counter increasing enemy air raids on Iranian towns and cities. "I give the people the glad tidings that they will soon further witness the effects of this innovation...And the Iraqi regime will no longer be able to go deep into our territory," said he.

He described as a sign of total desperation the recent escalation of military attacks by the Baghdad rulers on civilian quarters in Iran.

The Majlis speaker also expressed satisfaction over Iran's missile capability and said "fortunately, we do not rely on specific types of missiles. We have only some restrictions in using them." He further elaborated that the Islamic Republic was doing its best not to harm civilians in Iraq but warned that if the enemy continued its vicious acts "we will be forced to stop their crimes by firing (more) missiles on Baghdad and other Iraqi cities within the range of our fire." He said it will become further revealed in the future that Iran was in possession of various types of missiles.

Iraqi 'Sabotage' in Kuwait

GF311224 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 May 85

[Excerpts] Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative and spokesman for the Supreme Defense Council, has announced that the Muslim Iranian people soon will feel the effect of a new innovation of the God-fearing and specialized energies of the Islamic Republic of Iran in special defense affairs to counter the enemy's air aggressions, wherein the enemy will not be able to reach the depths of our territory. This came last night when Hashemi-Rafsanjani was speaking at the conclusion of a Supreme Defense Council meeting.

Referring to the recent explosion which Iraq carried out in Kuwait, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: This act which was carried out by the Saddam regime is an act of sabotage which aims at harming relations between Muslim Iran and the countries overlooking the Persian Gulf.

On Iran's humane measures to release disabled Iraqi prisoners of war, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We intend to release larger numbers of POW's either unilaterlly or by exchanging them.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Security Forces

LD311633 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] According to our correspondent's report a group of members of the Intelligence and Security Unit of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran met Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, yesterday afternoon. In a speech during the meeting Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, in reference to the importance of the responsibility of members of the Intelligence and Security Unit of the Armed Forces: Naturally all currents that are subservient to world arrogance attempt to penetrate the sensitive areas of this society, including our Armed Forces. This is a situation whereby, during the previous regime, the arrogant currents, particularly those of the west, were ubiquitous, were aware of the sensitive areas and the country's vital spots. Not a single sensitive center existed where foreign experts did not exist, while the presence of the Iranian forces in these sensitive centers was forbidden.

Referring to the existence of an extensive spy network of the arrogant powers in Iran prior to the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council then said: We were better known to our enemies than the masters of this realm and nation. Even officials of the former regime, including high-ranking Army personalities, did not know a great many of the codes and secrets known to foreigners.

The Majlis speaker added: The issue now is that Iran is currently emerging in the world arena as an independent and irksome counterweight against the foreign hegemonists. A country threatening the interests of arrogance could become the target for enemy surveillance. They are terrified by us. The way they used to count on the Army in the past cannot be compared with what is going on in the present. Our Armed Forces are now considered to be a tremendous force in the region. Our forces at present constitute an independent force in the region and, naturally, the enemy is spending more in order to penetrate them and obtain information.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council added: I read a news item in recent reports to the effect that the U.S. President nightly scrutinizes the satellite pictures connected with the battle of Badr. It must be very important for the U.S. President to inspect our existing movements, traffic, and advances nightly. When these people are so sensitive about the problems here that U.S. experts look at the pictures — even the U.S. President himself, despite his own preoccupations, takes the time to nightly scrutinize them — this is a sign of the greatness of the revolution. They are now openly acknowledging the revolution and its greatness. Two or three days ago a U.S. expert said: We should no longer frighten the people with the communist giant; rather, we should frighten them with the giant of Islam! We should frighten them with the Islamic movement that has begun in Iran, whose roots reach everywhere. This is because it is this very Islamic movement that could deal a blow to us everywhere through reliance on selfless and armed individuals and on divine ideology!

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, referring to the fact that the circumstances today are different from those yesterday and that the arrogant powers are greatly interested in penetrating the Islamic Republic of Iran, then said: Their interests necessitate this penetration. In the past,for instance, they had no need whatsoever to penetrate the clergy, since at that time the clergy occupied peripheral jobs and did not possess any responsibility. These days, they sharply attempt to penetrate the clergy and place a spy in their ranks. They also attempt to penetrate our economy and our sensitive centers.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council also said: Another issue that is new and that constitutes one of the characteristics of the Islamic Republic of Iran is that the number of individuals that could be bought from among the currents opposing the system is numerous in the country. These minigroups and counterrevolutionary currents which are dissidents, and whose interests are not secured in the Islamic Republic, are strongly prepared to be bought. We know these people. These are people who plant bombs among worshippers and in railroad trains. They sell war secrets to the enemy so that the enemy can either attack their compatriots or neutralize the attack by Islam's combatants, or, as happened during the recent battle and the bombing of the cities, they have played precisely the role of a fifth column and serve Iraq by weakening the region behind the front by disseminating rumors! We have acquired certain documents whereby these people have falsely reported to Iraq that "your attack was very effective; that the people have been greatly frightened, are very dissatisfied and are chanting antiwar slogans; that the more blows you deliver, the better!" These people incite the enemy to bomb their own civilian population. They move with lies and this is a characteristic of the enemies of the Islamic Republic; and such men who lack all intellectual basis, foundation, and hope in their future are prepared to be bought at any price so they can rapidly penetrate, become spies, make money, and sponge off others or, at least, pour their rancor and complexes on the heads of a society that has expelled them.

Therefore, we should look upon these minigroups as spies. Perforce they are all ready to turn into official spies for our enemies; and if they have not done so thus far, this is because they have not had the opportunity to do so. Someone who kills people during the Friday prayers and someone who provides the enemy with military secrets, whose party and movement make antiwar propaganda for the benefit of the enemy — what should he care if he were to find intelligence information and obtain money therefrom?

We should objectively acknowledge that these elements that are political and that oppose the regime have the potential for turning into spies and serving the enemy.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Our system has not acted as a butcher, as did the Marxists and others, which removed all those in government departments and elsewhere, and replaced them. Despite all the problems we entailed, with our studies and recognition we have attempted to purge bad individuals and replace them with healthy individuals, and even keep those who are mediocre so that they may be slowly remoulded and become faithful. This very method of treatment also creates the groundwork whereby individuals who have not been purged, and whom we have not kept an eye on, could remain and create trouble from time to time. The only thing is that we gave

preference to the advantages of such action rather than its drawbacks, because of the strength which we have felt permeating the fabric of society. We did not deem it necessary to adopt a harsh and inhuman course of action and thereby deprive the people of their daily bread.

The speaker of the Majlis added: All in all, the field for enemy penetration and intelligence-gathering is vast. Of course, in our entire society the counterforce that sees through these plots is constituted by the loyalty of the people and the intelligence of the million-strong people. We have seen how useful this has been and how all these plots have been neutralized by the people's intelligence. The other point is the faith and ideological toughness of the workers of the Islamic Republic and the revolutionary forces that are not acting as an ordinary department, and that strive with their hearts and souls to attain their goals and reduce their enemies to despondency. Of course, there is the strength of the revolution itself and other things that weaken the role played by the enemies. In any case, we should watch out and make a great deal of effort with the knowledge that a great many eyes are focused on us. Fortunately, because of the record left behind by unfit persons and the former regime, which was quickly recognized and purged, we were therefore somewhat relieved of their evil at a certain juncture in time.

Our enemies should make fresh investments — and of course, training a spy in this system requires a long time, during which he could also be neutralized! Therefore, this vigilance should always be practiced by us. Your duty is an extremely important one and you should keep it in mind everywhere. You should be careful, lest these demons in the literal sense of the word, who are infiltrating for the purpose of corruption and concealment, should be able to harm Islam, the revolution, the people, and this path of righteousness that exists. You should decimate their crimes and you should know that if you were to strive, armed with this faith and this thought, all the moments of your working day would be tantamount to worship and you would have your recompense from God Almighty and you could also consider such efforts as tantamount to Jihad along the path of God. You should also always beseech God Almighty to protect you from the slip-ups, telling lies and harmful rumors, and you should remain on the straight path whereby you would carry out your duty safely; and the gentlemen ulema who are working with you would most certainly keep an eye on you and remind you of your duties, which — God willing! — would serve God together with other striving servants of this revolution toward a healthy human movement!

Weekly Interviews Velayati on Gulf, U.S., USSR

LD022113 Tehran IRNA in English 1927 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 2, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said to the London-based weekly *AL-ALAM* that today more than any other time since the Islamic Revolution the Persian Gulf states have realized that insofar as their relations with other world countries are concerned their friendly relations wwith Iran is second to none. He said the Islamic Republic is the region's most important country and that throughout all history it has played a key role in the developments in the Middle east.

Velayati said because some of the Persian Gulf states have recently realized this, they have made somewhat friendly advances tc the Islamic Republic which moves are welcomed by the Islamic Government. The following are more excerpts from the interview of the magazine with Velayati on relations with foreign countries:

As far as the Islamic Government is concerned the criteria for establishing relations with a foreign country are not based on whether or not that country has friendly relations with the big countries or the superpowers. Likewise the establishment of relations with a foreign country does not imply that the Islamic Republic follows the policies of that country. To establish relations with the countries which are reputed to have solid relations with the United States such as the Western countries and of the NATO alliance, or with the Soviet Union- the Warsaw Pact members- would not be against the fundamental principles of Iran's foreign policy dictim which is based on independence from the West and East.

On Baghdad-Washington relations and Soviet's interpretation of the development and its impact on Tehran-Moscow relations:

How moscow will react towards Baghdad's about-face to the United States is the business of the Soviet Union. As far as the Islamic Republic is concerned it is for peaceful relations with the Soviet Union which has the longest common border with us. We only hope that our relations with the Soviet Union will continuously grow in the political, economic, industrial and cultural areas based on mutual respect for each other's equal rights and on non-interference in the internal affairs of our two countries.

On the role of Iran in relations between the Arab nations and on the Issue of Palestine:

Islam should be respected as a common element between the Arab and Muslim nations and principles of the faith should dictate their relations. For our own part we would warmly shake any hand being stretched to us from any of the Muslim and Arab nations for the purpose of safeguarding the territorial integrity of the Muslim lands and promoting the Islamic aspirations.

We look forward to seeing that the Arab nations are ready to exploit their potential and actual resources for liberating the occupied palestine. To us that day will be a great day. We are confident the self-humiliating policies as followed by certain countries of the region or their joining with the Camp David agreement will not lead to the liberation of the Palestinian Lands. We are also confident that eventually the governments of the region will yield to the one and same will of the Muslim peoples in relations with occupied Palestine.

At any rate because the liberation of the Holy land of Palestine is a principal strategic goal of the Islamic Republic we will consequently value any positive move in this respect and will respond to any call for help to that end...

Velayati Envoy Ardakani Arrives in Kuwait

LD311353 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Shams Ardakani, the special envoy of the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived in Kuwait last night. He had left Bahrain to deliver Velayati's message to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, the Kuwaiti foreign affairs minister. He was welcomed by Sulayman Majid Al-Shahin, Kuwaiti deputy foreign minister, a number of officials from the Foreign Ministry of Kuwait, and the charge d'affaires and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran Embassy in Kuwait.

Velayati's special envoy will depart for al-Ta'if in Saudi Arabia, after a meeting with the foreign minister of Kuwait.

Sees Kuwait Foreign Minister

LD010610 Tehran IRNA in English 0605 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Kuwait, June 1, IRNA — Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of foreign Affairs Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, met and conferred with Iran's foreign minister's special envoy, 'Ali Shams Ardakani, here Friday night.

During the meeting, Ardakani presented Shaykh Sabah with a written message from his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The two sides also held talks on mutual ties, problems of Iranians residing in Kuwait, and important regional issues.

Meets Kuwaiti Oil Minister

LD020341 Tehran IRNA in English 1752 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 1, IRAN — Islamic Republic of Iran foreign minister's special envoy Dr 'Ali Shams Ardakani who is currently in Kuwait, met and conferred with Kuwaiti oil and industries minister, Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah Saturday.

The necessity of stabilizing oil prices and the current situation of the international oil market were discussed in this meeting. The Islamic Republic charge d'affaires to Kuwait Mohammad Reza Baqeri was also present at the talks.

Shams Ardakani was to leave Kuwait for al-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia today to attend the OPEC conference meet.

Ardakani Summarizes Trip

LD020349 Tehran IRNA in English 1840 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Kuwait, June 1, IRNA — Foreign minister's special envoy to the Persian Gulf States, 'Ali Shams Ardakani told IRNA today that his trip was aimed at following up mutual relations with the regional countries and informing the foreign ministers of the southern coasts of the Persian gulf of the advances made in improving mutual relations.

Referring to his meetings with the foreign ministers of the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait, and Bahrain, he reminded that they had confirmed that mutual relations between neighbouring countries were strategic issues. He added that some believed that establishment of peace and friendship in the region would jeopardise political, military amd economic interests in the region. The United States, the Zionist regime and their other new and old agents in the region are at the top of those holding this idea.

They engage in sowing discord and terrorist acts and stand against the Islamic Republic. These states also exert pressure and terror, and perpetuate blackmail and evil propaganda against neighboring countries.

Ardakani said that during his meeting with the Kuwaiti foreign minister, they discussed the recent events in the region, the mutual relations and ways to improve Iran-Kuwait ties as well as ways to support the consular rights of Iranian citizens residing in Kuwait in accordance with international laws of which the Kuwaiti official promised cooperation.

Speaking about the recent conspiracies of Iraq to disturb the friendly relations between the Islamic Republic and the Arab countries of the Persian gulf, Ardakani said that "We believe that the conspirator will damage its own interests in the long run and this in fact shows the foolishness of our enemies." The regional countries are of course aware that they should not sacrifice their countries interests to such pressure.

He then spoke about the treacherous terrorist plans of Iraq in the region and referred to the criminal record of Saddam in engaging in state terrorism in the region, saying that the Iranian nation was not frightened of Saddam's terrorism. The nation which is not frightened of Reagan's terrorism and knows how to counter it, knows how to face new terrorists such as Saddam. The Islamic Republic was able to give a tooth-breaking reply to the greatest terrorist act of Saddam, that is the pre-planned attack of the Iraqi regime, and can undoubtedly reply resolutely to other terrorist acts, stressed the special envoy.

Envoy Ardakani Meets Saudi Foreign Minister

LD030551 Tehran IRNA in English 0535 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — Iran's foreign minister's special envoy, 'Ali Shams Ardakani, who is currently visiting regional states, met and conferred with Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faisal Sunday.

During the meeting which was held in Al-Ta'if, mutual ties, current developments in the region, issues relevant to the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and the necessity for further cooperation among regional states were discussed.

Oil Minister Gharazi Arrives in Saudi Arabia

GF021300 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Oil Minister Mohammad Gharazi arrived in Al-Ta'if to lead the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the fifth

OPEC ministerial executive conference scheduled to be held today. The delegation was received at the airport by the minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, the under secretary of the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs, and senior Saudi officials.

The Al-Ta'if conference is attended by ministers from Venezuala, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Iran, Ecuador, Kuwait, and Iraq. The Mexican oil minister will attend unofficially. The conference will discuss a report by the board of governors on production control.

Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani has officially denied rumors that oil prices will be reduced. In an interview with *ARAB NEWS* he said that the Al-Ta'if conference will discuss the ways OPEC members will stand fast in the face of price fluctuations.

In answer to a question on whether the conference will also discuss price reductions Mr Zaki Yamani said that Saudi Arabia rejects any kind of price reduction because it believes that any change in oil prices will confuse the market and inflict an irreparable economic and financial damage on oil producing and consuming countries.

Minister Rafiqdust Departs Libya for Syria

LD011908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Mr Rafiqdust, the minister of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, who went to Libya in an effort to study the situation in Lebanon and to work toward ending the bloodshed in Beirut, left Libya for Syria yesterday afternoon after a 2-day stay in Tripoli during which he met with officials of that country.

The Central News Unit reports that the minister of Islamic Revolution Guards Corps was welcomed by the head of the National Security Organization of Syria, a number of Syrian officials, the ambassador and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Damascus. It is noteworthy that Mr Rafiqdust is taking a written message from our president, Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian president.

Rafiqdust Gives Message to Al-Asad

LD010652 Tehran IRNA in English 0640 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Damascus, June 1, IRNA — Minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), Mohsen Rafiqdust, arrived in Syria Friday night and was welcomed by high-ranking Syrian officials.

Rafiqdust is carrying a message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i for his Syrian counterpart Hafiz al-Asad.

The IRGC minister who is travelling the region to help measures for a halt in the bloodshed between Lebanese and Palestinian Muslims, previously paid a visit to libya.

Lavasani Meets Sunni's, Officials in Lebanon

GF311246 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran headed by Lavasani, general political director at the Foreign Ministry, which has begun a visit to Lebanon within the efforts that Islamic Iran is making to end the clashes in the Palestinian camps in Beirut, yesterday met with Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the Sunni Mufti in Lebanon.

Lavasani said that the Islamic Republic of Iran feels a responsibility with regard to the situation in Lebanon and expresses its deep anxiety at the danger posed by the clashes that are taking place among Muslims in Beirut. He stressed that these clashes are not in the interest of Islam and Muslims.

On his part, Shaykh Hasan Khalid expressed during the meeting his support for the Islamic Republic of Iran's proposal which provides for ending clashes among Muslims and directing their arms toward the Zionist enemy, because any drop of blood that is shed is irreplaceable.

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran also met with a delegation of officials from the Hizbullah party in Lebanon. During the meeting, the Iranian delegation praised the efforts that are being made by the Hizbullah party in Lebanon to stop the clashes among the Muslims in the Palestinian camps in Beirut. The delegation emphasized the need to make further efforts in order to prevent the undermining of Islamic unity by Muslims.

The Iranian delegation called on Muslims to direct their rifles toward the original enemies, namely the United States and Israel.

Hizbullah officials expressed their gratitute for the efforts which the Islamic Republic of Iran is making to end the clashes in Beirut.

Lavasani Meets Lebanese Mufti

LD311621 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Beirut, May 31, IRNA — Special envoy of the Islamic Republic foreign minister Hoseyn Lavasani met with the Lebanese mufti, sheikh Hassan Khalid Thursday and discussed efforts to put an end to the recent clashes between Palestinian and Amal militias.

Lavasani expressed Islamic Republic's concern over the recent fighting saying that "such incidents only benefitted the enemy. In talks with our brothers in Syria as well as Islamic officials here, we have expressed our deepest regret for these deplorable encounters and have called for practical measures to end the fighting," said Lavasani.

He then called on the Lebanese mufti to launch efforts in finding a way to put an end to these clashes. The Islamic Republic has always stressed the unity of Muslims and regards the support of the ulema as a guarantee for success, Lavasani said.

Emphasizing the political aspects of these conflicts, Lavasani expressed hope for finding a solution to the problem.

In response, Hassan Khalid appreciated the Islamic Republic's efforts, saying that "this is the definition of Islamic brotherhood." He added that "we are religiously-bound to prevent any move that would cause disunity among Muslims."

Lavasani also met with a number of Amal movement officials at the Islamic Republic Embassy, here and ways to end the fighting were discussed.

The recent fighting in Beirut decreased considerably Thursday and political observers see this as room for optimism on a possible end to the fighting.

Delegation Concludes Visit to Lebanon

GF311940 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Iranian delegation headed by Lavasani, general political director at the Foreign Ministry, left Beirut today following a visit within the framework of the efforts made by officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end the clashes in the Palestinian camps in Beirut.

Before departing Beirut, the general political director at the Foreign Ministry stated that the fighting in the Palestinian camps is not in the interest of Muslims, but rather in the interest of the United States and the Zionist enemy.

Brother Lavasani added: the Islamic Republic of Iran — during the talks of this delegation in Damascus and Beirut — has proved its good will toward solving the problems which Lebanon faces, particularly in its fight against the Zionist enemy. On the camps issue, we have achieved good results, he said.

Lavasani said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has emphasized its efforts to prevent the shedding of Muslims' blood during the delegation's meetings with the Lebanese ulema and officials. He called upon the two warring parties to respond positively to the efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this respect.

Message to Lebanese Urges Halt to 'Clashes'

LD011751 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] In the wake of recent clashes in Lebanon, President of the Supreme Court Musavi Ardebili sent a message to Lebanese ulema. The message says:

Following the great and historic victory of the Muslim Hezbollah people in expelling the occupying Zionists — a victory which opened a new page in the history of nations and promises a bright future for the liberation of all Islamic forces, particularly the noble Jerusalem — this plot is solely aimed at distorting the struggles of the nations of Lebanon and Palestine; it is aimed at creating a division and paving the ground for the return of the occupying forces to the Islamic land of Lebanon.

The message, addressed to the Lebanese ulema, having condemned the plots hatched by lackeys which are a movement against Islam and the Islamic movement in Lebanon, adds:

Today it is the duty of all the alert and committed ulema as well as of revolutionary leaders to spare no efforts in order to stop this devastating war. It would be appropriate for them to declare these clashes unlawful and then call on the two sides to avoid getting involved in a plot promoted in the name of Islam, thus complying with the Shari'a and Koran decree and refrain from further fratricide.

'Islamic Front' Movement Formed in Lebanon

LD011808 Tehran IRNA in English 1741 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Beirut, June 1, IRNA — A Sunni Muslim religious leader in southern Lebanon has formed a new Islamic movement to change the political system in Lebanon and to continue war against the United States and the Zionists.

In a news conference Thursday Sheikh Mohammad Hammoud, a member of the community of the Muslim ulema called on the people to join his "Islamic Front".

The constitution of the front says that the present political system in Lebanon is a product of the 1920 Sykes-Picot agreement between the Britons and the French and it is treasonous to serve within such policy.

The treaty was signed after the First World War to divide the provinces of the defeated Ottoman Empire into separate Arab countries including Syria and Lebanon under the British and the French spheres of influence.

The constitution of the Islamic Front calls on the Lebanese Muslims to continue fighting with the United States and the Zionists under the banner of Islamic ideology.

The constitution states that the Front denounces all ethnic and religious differences and seeks an Islamic unity.

Beirut Islamic Movement Approves Iran's Policy

LD010209 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] The Islamic Movement [Harekat-e Eslami] in Lebanon expressed its approval of the stance taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran in the face of clashes among political groups in conflict with each other in Beirut.

According to the report of the Central News Unit from Beirut, the Islamic Movement, in a statement which was published in today's dailies in Beirut, stressed: The (?sympathy) of the Islamic Republic of Iran towards Lebanon springs from the Islamic belief in the heart of all responsible Iranian officials. In this statement, the conflicting forces have been called upon to return to the higher teachings of Islam since their wars will be the cause of enmity between Muslims and will make them forget the struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Tehran Arabic Reports Fadlallah's Beirut Sermon

GF011424 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Friday unity prayers were held in Beirut yesterday. The scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah led a large congregation in the prayers.

In his Friday sermons Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah referred to the bad results of the recent clashes between Muslims in Beirut. He said that the purpose of such regrettable events is to divide Muslims. The Beirut Friday imam said that the liberation of Palestine is an Islamic duty.

Referring to the struggle against the Zionist enemy, Fadlallah said: We reject the march on the path of the United States that has been pursued by a group in the name of the liberation of Palestine. Fadlallah referred to recent statements by officials of the Zionist entity in which they declared that the purpose of releasing Palestinians is to provoke a war among Muslims. He declared his opposition to any clashes with the Palestinians in Lebanon. He said: We must direct all our energies in the direction of the border of the Jerusalem-usurping entity so that we can liberate the region.

Concluding his two sermons, Fadlallah said: Muslims must unify their ranks and oppose U.S. plans that aim to safeguard the security of the Zionist entity. This is because we believe that the U.S. solution does not serve the interests of Muslims, the Arabs, or Palestine at all.

Beirut Palestinians Meet With Iranian Diplomats

GF020830 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] A large group of Palestinian women and children gathered outside the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Beirut yesterday following a march in the streets of southern Beirut. The group, chanting God Is Great, called on officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran to intervene and endeavor to stop the fighting in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

IRNA's correspondent learned that the Embassy officials invited in the group's representative and informed him of the pain felt by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the regrettable events in the refugee camps and of the endeavors being made by Islamic Iran to end the events. Embassy officials also proclaimed Islamic Iran's support for the Muslim Palestinian people and said that Iran distinguishes between them and the capitulatory Palestinian leaders. They also declared that the Islamic Republic of Iran, in accordance with its Islamic and humanitarian duty, will spare no effort to extinguish the fire of such sedition and to establish unity among Muslims to confront the Zionist enemy and the criminal United States.

Karrubi, Majlis Delegation Arrive in Damascus

LD311921 Tehran IRNA in English 1807 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Damascus, May 31, IRNA — An Iranian parliamentary delegation headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi arrived here today possibly for a week-long visit and was welcomed at the airport by the Syrian Foreign Ministry officials, as well as the secretary of that country's parliamentary 'Majlis al-Sha'b.'

In an interview at the irport here Karrubi said he is carrying a message from Iran's p ominent theologian Ayatollah Montazeri to President Hafiz al- Asad and the Syrian people. He said the Islamic Republic laud Syria's struggle under Al-Asad's leadership against imperiali m and Zionism in the region.

Karrubi, Khaddam Discuss Fighting

LD011817 Tehran IRNA in English 1732 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Damascus, June 1, IRNA — Hojjat ol-Eslam Mahdi Karrubi, Imam Khomeyni's representative and head of the Shahid (Martyrs) Foundation, who is here leading a high-ranking delegation appointed by Ayatollah Montazeri, met and conferred with Vice President for Political Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam Saturday.

In this meeting regional developments and ways to end the fighting between Palestinians and Shi'ite militias, as well as Muslim unity against the Zionist regime were discussed. The Iranian delegation arrived in Damascus Friday May 31. It is here on a commission from Iran's prominent theologian Ayatollah Montazeri to explore the ways and means for ending clashes in Palestinian camps in Beirut.

Coordinated Lebanese Policy Urged

LD021736 Tehran IRNA in English 1641 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Damascus, June 2, IRNA — The speaker of the Syrian parliament, Mohammad al-Zubi, Saturday told an envoy of the Islamic Republic that the two countries should coordinate their foreign policy with regards to the ongoing crisis in Lebanon.

Al-Zubi made the statement in a meeting with Iran's head of the Shahid (Martyrs) Foundation Hoj. Karrubi who is heading a delegation which arrived here Friday to seek ways for ending the fighting between the Palestinians and the Amal militia in Beirut.

The two men discussed regional politics and the role of the two nations with regards to the problems.

In the meeting, Al-Zubi spoke on the recent political developments in the region and explained Syria's policy with regards to the present situation.

He praised Iran's support for the Arab and Palestinian causes and said efforts to solve the Lebanese crisis were worthy of appreciation.

He said it was important to coordinate Syrian and Iranian policy in the international scene and to strengthen bilateran ties. He

said such efforts would benefit the common aims of the two countries.

Karrubi Arrives in Beirut, Recounts Syria Talks

LD022027 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Beirut, June 2, IRNA — A high ranking delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Madhi Karrubi, arrived here today where it met and conferred with Lebanese Shi'ite religious leader Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah.

The delegation will discuss ways of ending the fighting between Amal militiamen and Palestinians at refugee camps in Beirut. It will also confer with other Lebanese theologians and religious leaders.

Karrubi, who is head of Iran's Shahid (Martyrs) Foundation had earlier visited Syria where he discussed similar issues with that country's authorities. He termed the talks fruitful.

While in Syria, Karrubi said he held comprehensive talks with Syria's vice president, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the speaker of that country's parliament, Mahmud al-Zubi.

The Palestinian-Amal clashes in Beirut and ways of ending them were discussed in depth with Syrian officials, Karubbi said.

Karrubi said that Syrian authorities reiterated that the clashes only serve to harm the image of the Islamic forces and that a cease-fire should be put into force at once.

Karrubi Meets Khalid, Fadlallah

LD030624 Tehran IRNA in English 0607 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Beirut, June 3, IRNA — The Iranian delegation headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi met and conferred with Lebanon's Grand Mufti Shaykh Hassan Khalid and discussed with him solutions to put an end to the recent clashes in Palestinian camps, here Sunday.

Expressing the deep concern of Iranian officials over the incident, Karrubi stressed that the Islamic Republic sought a rapid halt to the clashes.

Later, the delegation had a meeting with vice president of the Supreme Council of Shi'ite Muslims, Shaykh Mahdi Shams al-Din, who hailed Iran's efforts in issues relevant to Muslims.

Referring to Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's message, Karrubi called for a serious confrontation vis-a-vis recent clashes and stressed on the necessity to thwart plots of international arrogance against Muslims.

The delegation also met and conferred with the Lebanese religious figure Sayid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah who called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to further continue its measures to strengthen the unity of Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims.

Country To Observe Palestine, War Day 5 Jun

GF010609 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, following the proposal made yesterday during the Friday prayers by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, that Palestine Day, or Qod's Day — 5 June — should also be celebrated as a day in support of war, the Islamic Propaganda Coordination Council issued a statement saying that historical ceremonies full of splendor in support of the Islamic combatants and war until the final victory will be held as proposed. Details of these ceremonies will be announced later.

The central headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps also issued a statement that in view of the speech by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the respected representative of reverend imam in the Supreme Defense Council, the IRGC, by announcing its readiness for widescale participation in the ceremonies of supporting the continuation of the war against the aggressor, will soon start various programs including the second stage of organization of the forces of the Labbayk Ya-Khomeyni plan, military training for all sections of the people, and completion of the special expertise training of the [word indistinct] plan in order to promote the battle strength of the Muslim nation of Iran to face the world oppressors.

Full details of these programs will be brought to the notice of the Muslim and the martyr-rearing nation and the combatant mobilized personnel.

Military to Initiate Planning, Training Programs

LD010843 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, following yesterday's suggestion by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, during the Friday prayers ceremonies of the Tehran citizens with regard to specifying International Jerusalem day, or Qod's Day as 5 June, as the day for supporting the war, the Islamic Publicity Coordination council, issuing a statement, declared: On this very occasion glorious, historic ceremonies will be held in support of Islam's combatants and the war, until final victory. The details of these ceremonies will be brought to your attention at a later date.

On the other hand the Central Staff Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, issuing a statement, declared that in view of the speech by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the esteemed representative of his holiness the imam to the Supreme Defense Council, while declaring its readiness for vast participation in observing the ceremonies in support for the continuation of the war against the aggressor, it would, during those days, begin its various programs, including the second phase for restructuring the forces in Plan Labbayk ya Khomeyni!, military training of all the strata of the people, and implementation of the specialized training for Plan Usamah aimed at raising the fighting power of the Iranian Muslim nation in confronting world arrogance. The details connected with the said plans would be brought to the

attention of the martyr-nurturing Muslim nation and the combative Mobilization forces in later statements.

Reportage on Attacks, Counterattacks in War

Air Attack Injures 3

LD311517 Tehran IRNA in English 1448 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 31 IRNA — A lone enemy plane violated the airspace of Tehran at about 15:00 hours (11:30 GMT) today but was faced with heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian forces and the air force jet fighters and forced to flee.

The intruding Iraqi plane when fleeing dropped its bombs in an area in the city which slightly injured three persons and caused minor damage.

Downed Plane Claim Denied

LD311607 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 31 IRNA — The Islamic Republic today flatly denied an Iraqi claim that its forces had downed an Iranian F-4 jet fighter Friday.

A spokesman for the War Information HQ. of the Supreme Defence Council said that in retaliation for Iraqi air raids on Iran's civilian areas, the Iranian jet fighters had carried out a series of successful operations inside Iraq and returned to their bases safely.

The spokesman said among the installations hit in today's operations was the radar center in Iraq's Ravanduz region. He said the claim by the Baghdad regime was to boost the morale of the Ba'th army personnel who personally witnessed the heroic operations of the Iranian pilots today.

Joint Staff Communique 2,120

LD311703 Tehran IRNA in English 1656 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran May 31 IRNA — The jet fighters of the Islamic Republic Air Force launched a series of lightning attacks on military and economic installations in a number of Iraqi cities Friday morning and after bombarding selected targets returned to their bases safely. A military communique issued here today said the operations were in retaliation for Iraqi shelling of several Iranian border towns including Marivan (in the west) and Abadan (in the south).

Communique No 2120 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said the operations took place as follows:

— At 08:05 hours local time (04:35 GMT) Ravanduz garrison was bombarded and heavy casualites and losses inflicted.

— At 08:55 (05:25 GMT) the radar station of Ravanduz was bombarded and completely destroyed.

— At 09:50 (06:20 GMT) military-economic installations in Miqdadiyah city as well as Iraqi troop concentration in this region were bombarded and considerable casualties and losses inflicted.

— At 10:58 and 11:00 (07:28 and 08:30 GMT) military-economic installations in Kumait and 'Ali al-Sharqi region were bombarded and considerable losses and damages inflicted.

The communique also said that Iranian artillery fire heavily pounded military-economic installations in Mandali, Badrah, Zurbatiyah, Varmahraz, Naft Khana, Sayyid Sadiq, Shayn Dari , Halabjah, Shu'arta, Khurmal and Basra over Thursday night and Friday.

Iraqi planes air raided the cities of Tehran, Hamadan, Rasht and Isfahan Friday afternoon. No human casualties were inflicted and only several people were slightly injured.

In the battle fronts the Islamic combatants zeroed in on Iraqi heavy weaponry positions and bunkers with artillery and heavy gun fire as a result of which Iraqi fire was extinguished and material and human casualties were inflicted upon the enemy.

In the western battlefronts, the Islamic combatants checked the movements of Iraqi armoured units and demolished more than 13 weaponry positions, three observations posts, three mortar launching pads, two vehicles and one 155 mm artillery piece killing or wounding at least 20 enemy soldiers.

In the southern fronts, the gendarmerie forces targetted enemy bunkers smashing four weaponry positions and one vehicle of the Iraqi forces in the Arvand river and Bayat regions. Several enemy soldiers were also killed during these battles, concluded the Joint Staff Command Communique.

Iraqi Plane Over Kashan

LD311833 Tehran IRNA in English 1811 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran, 31 May, IRNA — An Iraqi air plane violated the air space of Kashan, in Central Province, at 15:20 hours local time (11:50 hours GMT) today but was forced to flee by the anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants. The aircraft fired rockets at the city, but they caused no human casualties.

In another development, several Iraqi planes appeared over the skies of Khorramabad, in Lorestan Province, at 14:58 hours local time (11:28 GMT) today, breaking the sound barrier.

Air Attack on Tehran

LD312201 Tehran IRNA in English 2152 GMT 31 May 85

[Text] Tehran, IRNA, May 31 — Intruding enemy aircraft tried to attack Tehran, at 23.25 local time (Friday) but failed to infiltrate Tehran air space.

Intruding enemy planes, which failed to infiltrate Tehran air space due to the anti aircraft fire, dropped their rockets on a suburban settlement while fleeing. The rockets damaged some

houses and wounded 4 civilians, including 3 children between 3 to 5 years old and their father. One of the wounded is in critical condition.

Communique No. 2,121

LD011738 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 1, IRNA — Islamic Republic of Iran fighter planes Saturday attacked military-industrial complexes in the Iraqi towns of Qal'at Dizah and Bingird causing heavy losses, said the Joint Staff in its Communique Number 2121 issued today.

Iranian fighters also attacked the town of Qarah Gol 30 km south of the Sulaymaniyah Province, it said. The area of Bazar-Shahr suffered damages in the attack.

Meanwhile the Islamic forces of Iran artillery guns opened fire on 13 Iraqi towns and military centers in retaliation for earlier Iraqi raids on Iran's civil areas.

The command listed the Iraqi targets as: Basra, Halabja, Khyrmal, Shu'arta, Sayyid Sadiq, Shanih-Dari Naft-Khana, Zurbatiya, Badra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Abu-Khasib, and the Shu'aybia air base.

It said Iraqi planes earlier flew over Iranian towns of Salehabad, Saqqez, Marivan, Qazvin, Sumar, and Hamadan but failed to cause any damages because of the intense anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian forces.

In the front lines sporadic confrontations continued between the two sides.

In the Kani Sheik area of the Western front an Iraqi unit support of artillery, was forced to retreat after an attempted attack, with heavy losses in men and ammunition. Two Iraqi soldiers were captured in the operation.

Iran's Muslim combatants interrupted Iraqi transportation in the Sumar front when they bombarded enemy positions. In the Western front artillery duels continued with heavy damages on Iraqi positions reported.

Missile Hits Baghdad

LD012013 Tehran IRNA in English 2012 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 1 IRNA — The Iraqi capital was hit by Iranian missile at 22:30 hours local time (19:00 GMT) in retaliation for recent Iraqi attacks on Iran's civilian areas.

Iraqi Plane Downed Over Piranshah

LD012053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2038 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that an Iraqi plane was hit and downed by the fire of the anti-aircraft defense unit in the Piranshah region at 1030 this morning. The flames from the burning plane could still be seen for 2 hours afterwards.

Iraqi Planes Bomb Tehran

LD012135 Tehran IRNA in English 2112 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 1 IRNA — Iraqi plans violated the airspace over Tehran at 23:10 hours local time (19:40 GMT) today, 40 minutes after Iran fired its second missile on the Iraqi capital since the Baghdad regime resumed military attacks on Iran's civilian quarters last Sunday.

Total blackout was observed minutes before the red alert was broadcast over Tehran radio and heavy anti-aircraft fire began to fight intruding enemy planes.

Three bangs were heard during the raid which ended at 23:30 hours (20:00 GMT). Officials said the enemy planes had dropped their bombs in the outskirts of Tehran when fleeing which caused no casualties and damage.

Attack on Panamanian Ship

LD012138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] According to news agencies, an unidentified plane attacked a Panamanian ship near the eastern shores of Saudi Arabia today. According to these reports, the ship which was attacked by two rockets was going toward Kuwait from one of Saudi Arabian ports. Lloyds Insurance Company confirmed the attack and announced that in the attack one person was killed, two are reported as missing, and one was injured.

Casualties in Iraqi Air Attacks

LD012147 Tehran IRNA in English 2135 GMT 1 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 1 IRNA — At least six people were martyred and a number of others injured Saturday as intruding Iraqi planes bombarded residential areas in four western Iranian cities. Some material damages were also caused and some housing units destroyed in these attacks.

Gilan-e Gharb, Baneh, Piranshahr, and Ilam were attacked by enemy planes at 10:23 (06:53 GMT), 10:25 (06:55 GMT), 10:30 (07:00 GMT), and 13:00 (09:30 GMT) respectively.

Information HQ on Baghdad Missile

LD020537 Tehran IRNA in English 0523 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 2, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters in an announcement referred to the Saturday night's missile attack on Baghdad and stressed that Iran's retaliatory measures were aimed at forcing the aggressive Iraqi regime to halt its attacks against cities and residential areas in Iran.

It added that the Islamic Republic of Iran, following overt

aggressions of the Iraqi regime and after given [as received] previous warnings to the Iraqi people for the evacuation of cities, embarked on retaliatory measures and opened heavy fire on pre-determined targets on border cities and administrative-economic establishments in Baghdad.

No doubt, the announcement said, direct responsibility of the consequences of Iran's retaliatory measures would be undertaken by the Baghdad regime.

It stressed that the Islamic combatants are able, any time they decide, to make government centers in Baghdad targets for the fire of their heavy arms and inflict fatal blows on the Iraqi regime.

The announcement further noted that the Iraqi regime which is on the edge of downfall has started committing new crimes, upon the orders of the U.S., by resuming attacks against civilian areas.

It noted that in retaliation for Iraq's aerial attacks on Iranian cities, the Islamic Republic of Iran inevitably hit the heart of Baghdad with a missile at 22:30 local time (19:00 GMT) Saturday to show the Iraqi regime that the Islamic combatants of Iran hold the upper hand.

The announcement called on the Iraqi people to uprise and ask the Baghdad regime what its incentive is in attacking cities and residential areas in Iran which entails such a destruction for Iraq as well.

It reiterated that the Iraqi regime, being instructed by the U.S., commits these crimes adding that such lackey dictators were doomed to overthrow.

Iraqi Planes Again Over Tehran

LD020636 Tehran IRNA in English 0632 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 2, IRNA — Iraqi planes attempted to violate Tehran's airspace at 02:25 hours local time (22:55 GMT) Sunday but were forced to flee by the heavy anti-aircraft artillery.

The fleeting airplanes dropped their rockets in Tehran's outskirt causing no damages or casualties.

This was the second Iraqi attempt to violate Tehran's airspace in less than three hours. In the first raid, which took place 40 mihutes after Iran fired its second missile on Baghdad since last Sunday, the fleeing enemy planes dropped their bombs in a suburban area, causing no damages or casualties.

Iraqi Planes Attack Ilam

LD021115 Tehran IRNA in English 1205 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, june 2, IRNA — Iraqi jets bombarded the Iranian city of Ilam in Ilam Province at 1030 local time (0700 GMT) Sunday causing some damages.

At 1145 local time (0815 GMT) another Iraqi aerial attack against Orumiyeh in West Azarbayjan Province was repelled by the intensive anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian forces in the region.

At 0230 local time Sunday (2300 GMT Saturday), the airspace of the cities of Gazan and Zanjan were violated by intruding Iraqi jets which were forced to flee in the face of intense anti-aircraft fire. The city of Khorramabad in Lorestan Province witnessed the vain attempt of Iraqi intruding jets four times since Saturday night and the Iraqis could only manage to break the sound barrier over the city without being able to drop any bombs.

'False Information' in Missile Reports

LD021218 Tehran IRNA in English 1200 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 2, IRNA — The Islamic Republic News Agency denies news reports which quote IRNA as saying Iran hit Baghdad with two missiles Saturday night.

IRNA reported Saturday night that the Iraqi capital was hit by one missile in retaliation for the continuous Iraqi attacks against Iranian civilian centers. Reports from the Iraqi capital say the missile was more powerful than the previous Iranian missiles.

The UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL and the German news agency, DPA, incorrectly quoted IRNA as saying two missiles were fired on the Iraqi capital.

Asked to explain the reason for its attribution of false information to IRNA, the UPI office in Beirut said Sunday that the report was the result of a mis-reading. It apologized for the inconvenience.

Attacks Against Iraqi 3d Corps

LD021238 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Excerpt] According to reports from IRNA, while continuing the bombing of economic and military installations of Iraq, the effective and accurate fire of the forces of Islam halted the logistics movements of Iraq's 3d Corps stationed at the strategic Sindabad bridge in Basra. According to these reports, artillery units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, on the 7th day of their retaliatory operations and in response to the blind attacks by aircraft of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq on residential areas of our country, today shelled economic and military installations in Basra, Al-Zubayr, Abu al-Khasib, Al-Faw, Sayhan, al- Ziyadiyah, Al-Hariqah, Tanummah, Kut al-Zayn, and Al-Sibah situated in southern Iraq and inflicted considerable damage on these installations. According to reports, the forces of Islam concentrated their intensive fire on the strategic Sindabad Bridge in Basra and halted the logistics movements of the 3d Corps which uses that Bridge to supply the corps' combat units. This report indicates that the destruction of several trailers carrying ammunition over the Sindabad bridge blocked one of the logistics routes of the 3d Corps for some time. Also, a fire was reported in the Basra paper factory and in the factory's pulp stores.

Staff Communique No 2,122

LD021727 Tehran IRNA in English 1721 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, june 2, irna — Iranian fighter bombers attacked military industrial installations in the towns of Al-Amarah, Al-kumayt and Ramiyah in retaliation for Iraqi raids on Iran's civilian areas, the Joint Staff Command said in its Communique No 2122 Sunday.

Iran's Muslim combatants also artilleried economic and military centers of Naftkhana, Halabuha, Khurmal, Shu'artah, Sayyid-Sadiq, Shayn-Dari, Al-Zurbatiyah, Badra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Basra, Abu al-Khasib, and Shu'aybia air base.

The command said two Iraqi planes violated Tehran's air space at 23.12 (GMT 19:42) last night and another at 02.24 this morning (GMT 22:54 Saturday) but were forced to flee under anti-aircraft fire. The planes dropped bombs as they fled but they caused no casualties or damages.

The command said that in the front lines, artillery exchanges between the two sides continued in the northwestern areas of Sar Dasht, Piranshahr and Marivan. The Muslim combatants took over important heights in a pre-planned operation in the area, it said.

In the western front 38 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded and two artillery guns, three vehicles, and a number of bunkers and mortar launchers were destroyed, the command said.

In the southern front the heaviest clashes were reported from the Majnun Island and Nahr Anbar area. The gendarmerie forces stationed in the vicinity of the Arvand River interrupted enemy engineering activity and killed a number of the Ba'th soldiers and destroyed six of their bunkers.

Iraqi Communications Building Damaged

LD021758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Excerpt] IRNA reports that Iraq's state-owned radio and television building in Baghdad has been damaged in the missile attack last night by Islam's combatants. Early reports received by the agency say that the rocket hit the sensitive Salihiyah region near the Karrat Al-Maryam area. According to these reports, the windows of a number of foreign embassy buildings in that area were shattered by the blast.

Foreign agencies have so far not reported the exact location of the target hit in the center of Baghdad by the rocket. The West German news agency, however, reports that the rocket attack was accompanied by a very loud sound. According to reports, the casualties caused by last night's rocket attack by the combatants of Islam have been greater than earlier attacks, and for hours after the blast ambulances had been moving dead and wounded to hospitals and other medical centers.

Iraqi Radar Station Destroyed

LD021813 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Kurdish Iraqi revolutionaries reported that yesterday's bombing of military installations in Rawanduz, in Iraq, by the fast fliers of the Islamic Republic Air Force, destroyed an Iraqi radar station in the strategically important Rawanduz region.

Iraqi planes Over Tehran

LD022018 Tehran IRNA in English 2010 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 2 IRNA — The airspace over Tehran was violated by intruding enemy planes at 22:30 hours local time (19:00 hours GMT) Sunday.

A total blackout was observed in the Iranian capital minutes before heavy anti-aircraft fire began to work and force the enemy aircraft to flee.

While fleeing the invading Iraqi planes dropped some rockets a very high altitude. The sounds of several explosions were heard in the city.

Immediate reports on possible casualties or damages were not available.

Damage in Tehran Air Raid

LD022046 Tehran IRNA in English 2043 GMT 2 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran June 2 IRNA — One residential unit was destroyed and several others damaged in a fresh Iraqi air raid on the Iranian capital at 22:30 (19:00 GMT) Sunday.

The attack came 24 hours after Iran fired a surface-to-surface missiles on Baghdad. This was the second Iranian missile against Baghdad since Iraq resumed military attacks on civilian quarters in Iran last Sunday. The first missile was launched early Tuesday.

A number of people were martyred and wounded in Sunday night's Iraqi air raid on Tehran. Unconfirmed reports put the number of those martyred at six.

Rescue teams were despatched to the site of the rocket attacks immediately to aid the victims. People from different corners of Tehran also rushed to help.

Iraq Admits Missile Attack

LD030853 Tehran IRNA in Persian 0835 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — The Iraqi regime, in its military communique issued Sunday night after a 24-hour delay, confessed to the missile attack of the Islamic combatants of Iran against Baghdad. The Iraqi regime has so far tried to conceal the ability of the Iranian forces by keeping silent vis-a-vis missile attacks against the Iraqi capital.

But, due to the remarkable destructive powers of recent missiles fired on Baghdad and the fact that most of Baghdad inhabitants and foreigners residing there have noticed the light and sound caused by the missile explosion, the Iraqi regime was finally forced to confirm the missile attack.

The Iraqi regime, however, has not made any reference to the extent of the loss of lives and property or other details about the missile attack.

Reports reaching here indicate that Iran's latest missile has hit a strategic region in the city and has inflicted considerable damages and casualties. The reports added that Baghdad's radio and T.V. building has been severely damaged in the attack.

Meanwhile, the Baghdad regime has also remained silent vis-a-vis the attacks of Iranian fighter planes on Iraq's economic, industrial and military establishments.

Basra Train Station Hit

LD031031 Tehran IRNA in English 1016 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Ahvaz, June 3, IRNA — The railway station of Basra-Baghdad line and the Shatt al-'Arab hotel in Al-Mu'aqal District as well as the Basra branch of the Central Bank in Al-Khandaq District were hit by the artillery units of the Iranian forces during the past 24 hours and damages were inflicted upon them.

Incoming reports say that part of the railway station and railway depots were destroyed and the movement of Basra-Baghdad trains were halted.

Goods are transported to Basra port in trucks through the Safwan-Basra road from the Kuwaiti port of Al-'Abdali and are distributed to various parts of Iraq by rail. The destruction of the railway installations has interrupted the distribution of goods through Basra-Baghdad railway link.

Iraqi Kurds Down Iraqi Plane

LD031114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Excerpt] According to IRNA, an Iraqi fighter plane was downed by the fire of that country's Kurds. Sources belonging to the struggling Iraqi Kurds who are fighting against the Ba'thist government of Baghdad in the north announced that the struggling Kurds downed a fighter plane which tried to bomb (Yerwani) village in the Kordestan region of Iraq. According to this report the cap of the plane's pilot, who was killed, and also the wing of the downed plane with (?DD150) printed on it were captured by the Kurdish strugglers.

Artillery Attacks Industrial Sites

LD031101 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 3 Jun 85

[Text] Tehran, June 3, IRNA — Iranian artillery fire pounded Iraqi military, industrial and economic installations as well as logistic routes in the battle fronts and the cities of Khanaqin, Mandali, Al-Zurbatiyah, Badrah, Varmahraz, Naft Khanih, and Dhu Shaykh during the past 24 hours. Skies over these cities were covered with smoke due to the shelling.

Meanwhile, the strategic axis of Badrah-Dhu Shaykh route, was under Iranian fire for several hours as a result of which movements were halted along it.

Exchange of heavy fire continued in the western fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam over the said period during which the engineering activities and movements of the enemy were halted. Also, nine group and individual bunkers, two observation posts, one heavy vehicle were destroyed, one munitions depot was set ablaze and a vehicle was damaged. Seventeen enemy personnel were killed or wounded during these battles.

In another development, a military source in the south Monday explained the military effects of the constant bombardment of the enemy's logistic routes saying that with more than 190 hours of bombardment of economic and military installations of the southern cities of Iraq and the cutting off of parts of logistic routes of the Third Iraqi Army, a drop in the combat capability of the Third Iraqi Army is inevitable.

He added that the three northern, southern and eastern axis of Basra were in the direct fire range of the Iranian artillery units, the important roads of Basra-Noshve, Basra-Tanumah, Basra-Amara and the strategic bridges of Sandabad, Khur al-Zubayr and Garm Ali, regarded as the logistic axis for the Third Army, are constantly under the fire of Iran's artillery fire.

The source further said that there is evidence that the activities of enemy's artillery units have been reduced in east of Basra and the Third Army's units scarcely fire any bullets. Also due to the insecurity of logistic paths and the destruction of several trucks and trailers on military passages and logistic bridges of the Third Army during the past week, cases of bringing in fresh troops have not been reported.

He said that with regards to the existence of various marshes around Basra, the enemy cannot construct roads rapidly or install pontoon bridges and in case the bombardments of the connecting roads of Basra province continue, the combat power of the Third Army would fall greatly with regards to the lack of fresh troops. In this way the enemy will become vulnerable both in the war of the cities as well as in the fronts. The reports also indicate that during the eight day [as received] of shelling of Iraqi economic and military installations in southern Iraq, the artillery units of Iran zeroed in on the enemy's artillery units as well as the cities of Basra, Al- Zubayr, Al-Faw, al-Ziyyadiyah, Sayhan, Tanumah, al-Hariqah, Abu al-Khasib and Kut al-Zayn and heavy damages were inflicted.

The roads of Basra-Safwan, Basra-Amarah and Basra-Tanumah were under the heavy artillery fire of the Iranian forces as a result of which several trucks carrying munitions and personnel were demolished and heavy human casualties were inflicted upon the enemy.